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Wednesday April 24 1996

How supermarkets control what we buy

Guardia

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

Catherine Bennett on the woman behind the mask

Society

Brussels angered by lack of clear BSE action plan

EU snubs Hogg on beef ban

Stephen Bates in Brussels and Michael White

OUGLAS Hogg. the Agricultur Minister, returned empty-handed from his latest talks with the European Com-mission in Brussels yester-day, with no promise of an early end to the European Union's beef ban despite days of Conservative bluster and hints of a trade war.

During fevered exchanges in the Commons John Major ruled out illegal retaliation, while refusing to identify the other options ministers might deploy if all else falls. It prompted Tony Blair, the Labour leader, to dub his indecisive stance on the crisis as a "Grand Old Luke of York strategy", while Faddy Ash-down, the Liberal Democraticeder, called it "five weeks of

Hogg was warned that the Government will have to produce more detailed measure at a meeting of EU agriculture ministers in Luxembourg on Monday before liftthe ban could be

The ban is unlikely to be removed for several weeks, if not months, even if British proposals are agreed on Mon-day. That is by no means cer-tain because the commission has made it clear they will have to be in place and working before there can be any recommendation of a return

The impasse is bound to heighten the dangers for Mr Major's leadership as rightwing Tory critics step up the pressure for unilateral action, though key players like John Redwood reject talk of illegality such as withholding bud-

get payments.
In a diversionary ploy, the Prime Minister will use a speech to the Institute of Di-rectors today to talk tough against backdoor EU encroachments against Britain's social chapter opt-out. He will warn that "subse-quent shifts in interpreta-tion" of EU law could make it impossible for him to agree to

Following Monday's upheavals in London and Lux-embourg in which ministers appeared first to encourage, then to dampen speculation that Mr Major might initiate retaliatory bans on European agricultural exports to Brit-ain, Mr Hogg admitted that he had made no threats at yester-

day's meeting. He told journalists: "There was no discussion of retalia-tion. We were talking about how together we can satisfy





Diary of a climbdown :-

fiasco"
In two hours of fresty talks with Franz Fischler, the Agriculture Commissioner, Mr. Hogg was warned that the commissioner of the commissio the Sunday Express. He is studying possible retaliatory mport bans, according to briefings to the Financial Times and Daily Telegraph. MONDAY, APRIL 22 Gunboat diplomacy: Mai-

colm Rifkind refuses to rule out import bans: "No country, not just the UK, could accept an indefinite, comprehe ban that is not required for health reasons." Second thoughts: Michael Heseltine, on Channel 4 News,

arguing against macho soluions, says: "We are in the business of trying to find a sensible diplomatic answer to this issue." TUESDAY, APRIL 23

Rifkind reconsiders: "I don't see the United Kingdom, which is one of the most lawabiding countries in the world, contemplating breaking the law."

Journalists "misunderstood": Downing Street, chiding the press: "The Government has followed a consisten line all the way through." A British victory: Douglas Hogg declares the end of the beef ban is in sight after useful and constructive talks with

Perhaps not: Britain has a week to come up with revised proposals, otherwise the ban

the Council of Ministers, the veterinary committee and the mmission as to the fullness of the steps we have taken and as to our earnest desire to see a substantial reduction in the incidence of BSE.
It is our belief that British beef is safe and we were working together to try to bring about a solution to this

problem."
Notably more restrained be-side him, Mr Fischler made it clear that the ban would not be lifted until further meatures had been adopted. He said: "Those controls have to convince us that the prerequisites are there for removing the export ban. The quicker this can take place the

out eradicating BSE, three

ne in the European beef business and bemuse resolve the crisis. Mr Fischler made clear to

MEPs on Monday that the alaughtering of some younger cattle in herds where there n cases of BSE will have to be accepted and imbe lifted. The measures will also be monitored for an unspecified period to check that

they are working.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, insisted yes-terday that there was no question of Britain acting illegally to force the lifting of the ban. Michael Heseltine, the deputy prime minister, reinforced the message by saying on BBC radio: "It would have been naive and irresponsible threats to senior European

hinted at eventually lifting the ban for grass-reared cattle — if the Government can pro-duce guarantees that the meat from particular organically-reared herds is not infected products, there was little sign from Britain that extra measures are being formulated. cases of BSE, no figures were

discussed yesterday. Germany has already made clear that it will not accept any British beef until it has received proof that the dis-ease is eradicated — something that will take years to

Beef protest, page 2; Leader comment, page 8

reporting "of the highest quality". These included her work marking the fifth At the sight of flames enanniversary of the Gulf war and her investigation

into the lives of child pros titutes in Bradford. GUARDIAN journalist miggie O'Kane last night received the 1996 James Cameron Award for fear." has twice been named quickly."

Brussels officials made lit tle secret of their annoyance that Mr Hogg had produced no additional proposals to prove British seriousness after he was asked to io so at the last agriculture

ministers' meeting. Mr Fischler said: "As to

should resort to threats when it needs help and money to

for us to have started issuing

Although the commission and on some supplementary Despite suggestions that the Government might put for-ward proposals to cull an additional 40,000 cattle from berds where there have been



Last night, there were conflicting views about the danger of radioactive smoke. Some radiologists feared the fire would carry radioactive material out of the 18-mile exshenko, deputy head of Ukraine's environment min-istry's nuclear-safety depart-ment, said: "If the fire is allowed to burn much longer, it will certainly carry some radionucleides beyond the ex-clusion zone and threaten the outside population."

round the reactor site.

But Anthony Frogatt, a spokesman for Greenpeace in Kiev, said: "Fires are one of the major ways that radionuclides travel to uncontami-nated regions. This is clearly a danger to the health of peo and not only in Ukraine. About 800 people have moved back permanently into the zone in defiance of government exclusion orders

clear summit in Moscow, Leo-

Virgin chief in sex lawsuit

Alex Bellos

RICHARD BRANSON.
the head of Virgin and
self-styled boy's own hero, is being sued for sexual harassment by a former senior manager who claims be fondled her breasts.

Mr Branson, who was in New York yesterday to open a Virgin Megastore, immediately dismissed the allegations as a cheap publicity stunt to spoil the launch. He said: "The allegations are not true. They have no legal or factual basis. We will be going to court to get it struck out and are confident we will succeed. Anyone in business in the US nowadays has to ac-

the US nowadays has to accept this sort of thing."

The lawsuit was filed in a New York federal court by Elizabeth Hlinko, who was appointed as Virgin Atlantic's Manhattan public relations manager in 1992. She accuses Mr Branson of sexual harass. Mr Branson of sexual harassment and subsequent dis-crimination that led to her

dismissal last year.

Ms Hlinko claims that in May 1994, at a media party at Mr Branson's London estate, he made unwelcome sexual advances by fondling and grabbing her breasts in front of other employees and guests. She claims that her problems had started that year when Devid Tait, a Virgin executive vice-president whom she is also suing, began

ridiculing her. Ms Hlinko is seeking un specified compensatory and punitive damages, back pay and reinstatement. Should the airline fail to rehire her. she is asking the court to order it to pay her future wages, pension bonuses and other lost benefits.

family and 70 members of the press were at the party and added: "It is worth noting that the alleged incident sup posedly took place two years Richard Branson sweeping Liza Minelli off her feet at Virgin Megastore's launch in New York PHOTOGRAPH DAVE CHESKN heard about it."

Chernobyl fire kindles fears of radioactivity

David Hearst in Moscow

TRONG winds were blowing black pillars of radioactive smoke towards Kiev last night after fire swept through five derelict and highly contaminated villages in Ukraine's exclu-sion zone around the Chernobyl nuclear power station.

The blaze comes three days before the 10th anniversary of the world's worst nuclear ac-cident, and started when a cigarette butt was dropped in tinder-dry conditions. Former residents, who are allowed to return to their for-

tend graves, watched in hor-ror as the flames took hold about noon. Firemen from Chernobyl station, which was not threatened by the fire, rushed to the scene and helicopters flew in personnel and equipment. After two hours, the fire was still not under control.

gulfing family graves, some of those visiting their former homes broke down in tears and refused to leave the site. A firemen at the scene said: "So far we have no sign that anyone has died in the fire, but it is spreading very



Firemen, however, played down the danger of radio-activity. Vassily Melnik, head

said forest fires were common and radioactivity at the site was not increasing. But after two explosions at Chernobyl's number four reactor 10 years ago, there are concentrations of high radioactivity all

Ukraine's official news media also played down the danger of nuclear-dust particles spreading into the

nid Kuchma, Ukraine's president, told a meeting of the G7 leaders of his decision to close one of two remaining working reactors at Chernobyl. A study by western-European scientists is due to be com-pleted by the end of the year on the dangerously cracked state of the concrete sarcophcore, which is still burning

JUST A SMALL ONE.



Cameron award for O'Kane

international and domestic journalist of the year.

pack some of

England play Croatia at Wembley fonight in one of

the most difficult. matches during

Terry Venables regime.



Sketch

Tens of laughs as play on words fails to add up

Simon Hoggart

Ps often debate who "won" Prime Minister's Questions. though like the old Soviet Union ice skating judges, they tend to make sure the right side gets the points.

Yesterday I thought Tony Blair was the clear winner. For one reason, he was obviously listening to what Mr Major was saying and res-ponding to it; a riposte sounds much sharper when it clearly hasn't been scripted in advance. Then Mr Major himself was also

under pressure. You can tell he's rattled when he produces a stack of Majorisms. Majorisms aren't meaningless blether like George Bush's Bu-shisms, or simply bonkers. like Ronald Reagan's Rea-ganisms. Instead they are peculiar, wispy and fey — perfectly grammatical, but in a deeper, more profound way, quite meaningless. For instance, Hilary Arm

strong (Lab, Durham NW) quoted Sir James Gold-smith, who had asked about the Prime Minister: "How can people be expected to follow a man who zig-zags

Mr Major replied: "I can think of some prominent politicians who have made it their life's work in the last two years to deny every-thing they previously stood

This was a reference to Tony Blair. But how can you have a life's work which has lasted only two years? He did not explain. Instead he went on: "You might look at some of the pamphlets produced, in which many tens of Labour members show their sharp differences with the Labour Party's front bench

"Many tens?" Labour MPs were delighted, and rolled the cloth-eared phrase around their mouths

with noisy pleasure. Jacques Arnold (C, Gravesham) rose to demand that, if the Europeans don't allow our beef back in, we should withdraw both our co-operation and our money. With his voice like the rattle of a dead man's

bones, I have always sus-pected that Mr Arnold is dug up each morning by the whips, and brought to the Commons in a hearse.

Now he has taken up the cause of the cows, I have a terrible fear that the whips might make a mistake, stun him humanely, and have him incinerated. This would be a tragedy for Mr Arnold and his family, but it would keep him out of the

The Prime Minister replied that this course of action would be against the law, and Mr Arnold wouldn't want him to break

the law, would he? Mr Blair picked up the subject. He suspected, he said, that "many tens" of Tories privately agreed with Mr Arnold. Not a dazzling joke, perhaps, but at least it showed he was listening. Mr Major said that if the Europeans did not lift the ban, "we will look at other

and cries of "Who-o-ah!" from the Labour benches Mr Blair referred to reports that Mr Major had called other European lead-ers "bastards". This has the ring of truth; he seems to call most people bastards at one time or another. The Labour leader handled it well: "He calls the other

options", to a mock cheer

heads of government er . . ." a longish pause, "a bunch of somethings or other!" At the end of the session, Don Anderson asked him what new "measures of ap-peasement" he was planning to placate Sir James Goldsmith.

Mr Major replied: "The inswer is very clear. None. Now that's not a Majorsm, but it may well be a fib. Later there was a debate

on the new Northern Ire-land elections, and Peter Robinson (DUP, Belfast E) pointed out that under the strange rules, which allow representation for at least 10 political parties, the new negotiating body could eas-ily have three members of the Natural Law Party.

Yogic fliers debating with Gerry Adams! The IRA has always known how to levitate buildings, but has generally preferred to use Sem-tex. Still, it's worth a try; everything else has failed.



Rock dinosaurs will recall a distant epoch with mammoth Hyde Park gig ist, John Entwhistle, aged 51, will play with an ensemble of

YDE PARK will be transformed into Juras-sic Park this summer as rock dinosaurs stage what they hope will be the genre's they hope will be the genre's largest concert for 20 years. The Who will perform their rock opera, Quadrophenia, and Bob Dylan, Eric Clapton, and — with a cursory nod to the present day — the Canadian singer Alanis Morrisette, are to play before an expected audience of up to 150,000.

Launching the event yester-day, the Who's guitarist, Pete Townshend, who is now aged 50 and wrote Quadrophania 23 years ago, said he wanted to put it on because of the message it gave to teenagers

"It is very, very relevant," he said. "It is about a young man who manages to get through those really difficult. teenage years. Isn't that what pop music's always about?" Looking like a preacher in a smart black suit, the balding mod said the plot's "spiritual is the main event of this epiphany" transcended the year's National Music Festi-

When he first toured with day music event since Black-Quadrophenia it "did clunk a bushe in Berkshire in 1978 When he first toured with now meant it could be staged as a spectacle complete with video images, subtitles, and

Zak Starkey, who, as the son of Ringo Starr, has per-fect dinosaur credentials, will drum for the Who. He was given his first drumkit by the Who's original drummer. Keith Moon, now dead. The MasterCard Masters of

Music Concert on June 29 will be the first rock concert in Hyde Park since 1976. However, the royal park is used to hosting large events both for the elderly and involving opera, having put on the VE Day celebrations last year and Pavarotti in the Park in

tured his trout farm in Amer-ican Express credit card commercials, admitted he was nervous about the concert. "It's a bit like looking forward to going to the dentist.

incide with the eve of the final in Britain of the Euro '96 with Bob Dylan and Eric Clapton, according to the or-ganiser, Harvey Goldsmith. Tom Shebbeare, director of high-tech scenery.

Roger Daltrey, the Who's singer, aged 52, will take the lead role and the group's bass- eta go on sale at £8 on Friday.

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John, the Rures

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First night

Reason vs hate fear and racism

Michael Billington Twelve Angry Men Cornedy Theatre

EGINALD ROSE'S Twelve Angry Men hails from the golden age of American television, was famously filmed by Sidney Lumet in 1957 and even parodied by Tony Hancock. But, as Harold Pinter's new production shows, it still has plenty of dramatic juice in it, partly be-cause it offers the fascinating spectacle of people changing their mind under pressure of reason and partly because it exposes some of the myths surrounding the judicial

System.
Twelve New York jurors, on a sultry afternoon, are con-fronted by what looks like an open and shut case of firstlegree murder. A 16-year-old father. The case rests on the recovery of the switch-knife and the testimony of an old man who heard the boy threaten murder and a worn an opposite who saw the killing take place through the

windows of a passing train. But one juror expresses reasonable doubt" and gradually, through patient sifting of the evidence, swings his colleagues round. In one sense, the play is a

product of its time: an allwhite, all-male jury is asked to pronounce on what, by implication, is a black community killing. There is also an obvious dramatic weakness: the case on examination turns out to be so full of holes that it is reluctantly appointed defence This review appear counsel wouldn't, out of sheer editions yesterday

professional pride, have torn it to shreds. But the power of Rose's play

lies in its exposure of the jury as a demented racist, a thru
sees the killing as an assault
on patriarchal values. Far
from being a hymn to the notion of "twelve good men and
true," the play shows a disturbing microcosm of society.
Pinter's production not

only manages to keep the action fluid: it also points up the mania and muddle of the average jury. Kevin Whately bats effectively for liberal doubt, and Timothy West is scrupulously good as a broker finally swayed by logic. But the characters you

remember are those filled by rage against a rapidly chang-ing world: in particular, Tony Haygarth as a blustering red-neck who finds in the case an echo of his own parental fears and Peter Vaughan as a sick bigot who sees all ethnic mi-norities as "wild animals".

Twelve Angry Men as a paean to justice. This production brings out the play's devastat-ing indictment of the racial and social panic at the heart of 1950s America. You could even say it puts the O. J. Simp son verdict in its historical context in that it reminds us of an era when to be black was to be automatically guilty.
This review appeared in later

Beef exporters hand out steaks in cash protest

BEEF exporters are to sue the Ministry of Agriculture after being left with £35 million worth of stock impounded in warehouses or on the high seas in the wake of the BSE crisis. The beef was draw attention to their plight. approved for human con-

pean ban and condemned on its way to customers. It falls outside the Government's existing compensation pay-ments system and some meat

exporters face bankruptcy. Yesterday the International Meat Traders Association gave away £10,000 worth of Scottish beef in London to

system. On one level, it shows how decency and sense pre-vail. But it also demonstrates ruthlessly and unsentimental ly, how people bring their weaknesses, paranoia and neurosis with them into the jury-room. One guy wants a quick verdict so he can get to a bail-game; another is revealed as a demented racist; a third

I'd always thought of

tal and to improve the financ-ing of small and medium sized firms.

we have seen dossiers of idle possip, uninformed rumour, inaccurate information and Conservative lies about abour and they have all een made with no access to Labour's budget thinking.

"People would be better gambling on the national lot-

the authors would be sacked."

advises clients:

ORDON BROWN, the shadow chancellor, accused accountants and the tax avoidance indus-try yesterday of peddling lies their tax benefits. about Labour's tax plans, tak-ing money on false pretences, and selling dossiers to clients pased on idle gossip and uninessets in trust for

based on idle gossip and urun-formed rumour.

Mr Brown's attempt to ex-pose bogus expert advice on Labour's tax plans provoked calls from the accountancy profession for him to rectify any of its errors by publishing his party's plans.
One accountancy firm,
Ernst & Young, admitted its
advice was based on educated

guesses. The shadow chancellor's attack came at a Labour-spon-sored conference marking the end of Tony Blair's eight month round of industry forum consultations. The forum heard strong calls from industrialists, including Ian Gibson, chief executive of Nissan, for governments to do more to invest in human capi-

Patrick Wintour, Chief

Mr Brown told the conference: "In the past few weeks

tery than on random advice coming from some of these sources. If in any other occupation peddling rumours and lies were the basis of advice. Accusing the tax avoidance industry of selling Britain short, he said he had written short, he said he had written publish proposals only in the to one firm pointing out 12 light of economic circum-

Advice

Pete Townshend: 'Quadrophenia's spiritual epiphany transcends the generations'

IN ITS Pre-Election Tax Planning document KPMG

Brown attacks tax plans 'lies'

C Use offshore trusts for ☐ Use full allowance for Peps and Tessas, in case Labour withdraws these. Place short-term taxable

☐ Take early retirement before the election in case the Capital Gains Tax rules are amended to encourage

longer-term holdings. Gordon Brown sald the claims that people who earn more than £40,000 will have less disposable in-come were "supposition converted into prediction"

The accountants Smith & Williamson have published a guide entitled Financial Advice for a Change of Gov-ernment. Like KMPG, it warns of a 50 per cent tax for the "super rich" who earn more than £80,000. It advises its wealthy clients to accelerate the receipt of income before the General

ment prepared for nationwide seminars on tax avoidance, including offshore trusts. His remarks came soon after it was revealed that the accountancy firm, KPMG, was organising 150 seminars around

Mr Brown made a virtue of his refusal to publish Labour's tax plans, saying if the party was still solely motivated by the politics of envy. it would be simple to publish them now. However, he insisted that Labour wanted to factual errors in a short docu- stances, adding that the Chan- Notebook, page 11

cellor, Kenneth Clarke, had not been criticised last week for saying he would not begin to think about the Governfears of factory ment's tax plans until weeks before the November budget. job losses He also laid down the law to his own party after a month of speculation, which in-cluded Labour MPs calling for Labour to commit itself to

a new higher rate of tax. "I will make the decisions on

tax. I will make them when I know the condition of the

economy, and I will make

them according to the princi-ples which show Labour is in-terested in a fair deal for

every taxpayer, and not penal

Peter Hobbs, head of the tax

faculty at the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, described

Mr Brown's attack as "a num-

ber of extreme statements, which would not be generally accepted in the tax profession.

Gerry Hart, President of the

Chartered Institute of Tax-ation, the professional body

for tax advisers, said: "He's

bringing tax into the election debate again, which I thought is what they didn't want to do. The way to stop all this scare-mongering would be to pub-

lish their proposals.
"If the firms are just setting

out what they think might

happen, there's nothing wrong with it. If they're say-ing 'this will happen', that's

Ernst & Young said: "Some

degree of educated guessing is inevitable and we haven't dis-

uised that. We would be de-

lighted to comment on a fully fledged tax policy document

Brian Mawhinney, the Con-

servative Party chairman,

said: "If Mr Brown doesn't like it he has a simple

the tax plans and be damned."

pushing it too far.

from Labour.

Richard Thomas and Sknon Beavis

ONSERVATIVE fears
that widespread factory
job losses will damage the
party's election prospects
were underlined yesterday
by a survey showing manufacturers shedding staft faster than for two years. Labour seized on news from the Confederation of British Industry that 16,000 workers were laid off between January and

March to attack the Government.

Following the leak of a memo revealing the fears of the Trade and Industry Secretary, Ian Lang, that thousands of manufacturing that feesed redundancy that staff faced redundancy, the star faced redunancy, in CBI's quarterly poll of 1,225 industrial companies confirmed that plummeting export orders had driven

output to its lowest level since October 1993. Tony Blair, opening a Labour conference setting out the party's industrial policy plans to business, said Mr Lang and his col-leagues pretended in public that policies were delivering a buoyant labour mar-ket, but knew the reality

The CBI said companie were optimistic that outpu and orders will bounce back in the current quarter as the domestic economy picks up. But previous hopes of an upturn have been dashed, and CBI officials were reluctant to pre dict an improvement. Even survey suggests job pros-

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Peers blow hole in asylum bill

HOUSE of Lords rebellion led by the unlikely figures of the Duke of Norfolk and the Bishop of Liverpool last night put a large hole in legislation by the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, seeking to curb the rights of ing to curb the rights of asylum seekers.

The peers voted by 143 to 124 to exempt torture victims and those who have fled from countries with a recent record of torture from the bill's "white list" provisions and the new "fast track proce-dure" for dealing with

Home Office ministers ploited by the unscrupulous to undermine the effect of the bill in dealing with bogus asylum claims.

nosaurs

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moth

ark gig

Among the five Conserva-tive peers who rebelled were the Duke of Norfolk, Britain's premier Roman Catholic peer, and Lord Boyd Carpen-ter, the father in law of Doug-Hogg, the Agriculture Minister. They were joined by four bishops, 38 cross-benchers and Labour and Liberal Democrat peers. The rebellion was largely organised be-hind the scenes by the Liberal Democrat Lady Williams.

Home Office ministers said ast night they would consider the concerns raised in the Lords. The Government may face a stiff task in overturning the defeat when the bill returns to the Commons

The Bishop of Liverpool. the Rt Rev David Sheppard, moving the successful amendble people in the world and most of those who applied for asylum came from India, Pakistan, Ghana, Sri Lanka, Somalia and other countries which had historical ties of empire to Britain.

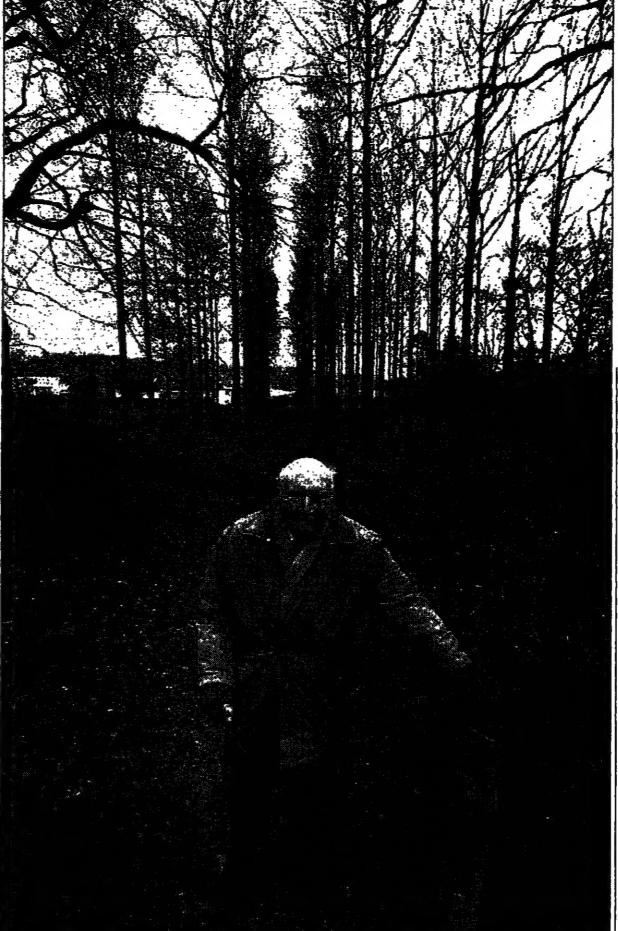
Mr Howard's bill was to intro-duce a harsh regime to deter asylum seekers from applying

Asylum claims from the seven designated "white list" countries would be presumed to be unfounded and put through a procedure which would give them only 10 days to produce the necessary doc-uments. Dr. Sheppard said that was too soon to be able to produce medical evidence and was an inappropriate pro-cedure for torture victims. "They should be removed from the scope of this clause,"

far designated are India, Paki-stan, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Ghana, Poland and Romania. The Duke of Norfolk said he cause more and more torture cause more and more proore was taking place in the world. He said it was not enough just to rely on the evidence of scars: "When I was in Ger-many a prisoner was put outpoured over him. He was left

oing and bashing."
The Home Office Minister Lady Blatch, in unsuccess fully trying to stem the rebel-lion, warned that the new pronumbers trying to evade the accelerated procedures for dealing with asylum seekers.
"There are very few

countries where there are not allegations of brutality by the



was very positive."

The Syrian rebuff abruptly ended Israeli hopes that the Lord Denning, dwarfed by the battalians of poplars in the most beautiful garden in England and Israeli hopes. grazes sheep. "It was left in a dreadful

Denning fights for his garden

Planners find old age has not dimmed the fire of a former judge

Serah Boseley

HE former Master of the Rolls can take his favourite walk down the prim-rose path nowadays only if he has an arm to lean on. There are benches where he can frail below the battalions of poplars he planted 30 years ago. But where 57-year-old Lord Denning perceives an injustice, old age has not dimmed his fire.

As the planners who want to build a car park on a slice of his land are finding out. "This is part of my garden and I rely on the legal princi-ple that an Englishman's house is his castle. Everything within my fence is my castle and they have no right to come on it in any way.

Lord Denning and the vil-lage of Whitchurch, Hamp-shire, have a symbiotic relationship. Above the chemist's shop is a plaque pro-claiming his birthplace, son of a draper. Village guides point out the Lawn, the derelict house he bought in 1963 which was the wartime headquarters of the Bank of Eng-land. Its greensward runs to the River Test. Lord Den-ning's acres extend on the far side to an ESA (environmen tally sensitive area) where he

the most beautiful garden in England. Look at my poplars — aren't they splendid?" Peter Post, once clerk to the Master of the Rolls, is estate manager. "Lord Denning is a keen conservationist," he nail. He is asking the local au-thority for chapter and verse as to the law under which they can take away an En-glishman's home and castle." Basingstoke and Deane

council's planning depart-ment argues that the poplar plantation is the only unde-veloped land close enough to the centre of the village to be suitable for car parking. A small car park nearby needs to be replaced. Besides, the proposal would allow people greater access — across Lord Denning's land — to the river.

apoplexy in the lord.

The proposals were published in the borough local plan last year, said Tim Marsh, senior planning offi-cer, but there was no thunderbolt from his lordship until the detailed plans were pub-lished in January. "He didn't sume he was willing to have it developed as a car park."

slap a compulsory purchase acre until it is forced to use fordable housing, which is unlikely for some years.

Behind it lurks the question of Lord Denning's continued longevity, but assumptions on this score may be foolish. "I was a seven month baby," he chuckled. "I was so small I could be put in a pint pot. But I've managed to live for 97 years." And he shows every

Syrian leader's snub snuffs US peace mission

David Hirst in Beirut and

Assad of Syria delivered yesterday what ap-peared to be a monumental snub to Warren Christopher, the United States secrets state, as he pursued his apparently floundering mis-sion to end the Israell-Hisbul-

Mr Christopher arrived in Demascus in the afternoon on the latest stage of his shuttle diplomacy only to be told by Farouk al-Shara, the foreign minister, that Mr Assad was not available to receive him. He left the Syrian capital after two and a half hours and flew to Tal Aviv.
Nicholas Burns, the sta

department spokesman said Mr Christopher had talked to Mr al-Shara during his car journey from the airport to Damascus before Mr Assad's snub. They had discussed is-rael's latest ideas on how to end the confrontation in

tion with Shara. He passed on some ideas," Mr Burns said. Israel's main demand for calling off its bombardment is that Syria guarantees a pledge by Hizbullah guarril-las to permanently end their Katyusha rocket attacks on northern Israel.

Shimon Peres, the Israeli prime minister, speaking be-fore news of Mr Christopher's aborted mission, said Israel was demanding a written agreement — and not merely an extension of the verbal undertaking in 1993 to avoid civilian targets.

The understanding ended Israel's last big blits on

Mr Peres has put all his trust in Washington's ability to negotiate a way out of the

In an interview in yester day's Ma'ariv daily news-paper, he said of his lafest telephone conversation with President Bill Clinton: "He outstanding. He expressed support and understanding.
"I told him that what is

happening is part of the [May 29 Israeli] election campaign — but not for me, against me.

RESIDENT Hafez al- US could deliver a ceasefire dependence Day celebrations.
Mr Christopher had come
from Jerusalem, where he
had been discussing Mr Assad's views on the US peace plan with Mr Peres.
It was Mr Christopher's third visit to Damasqus since

he began his mission. He spent five hours with Mr Assad on Monday, who turned a deaf ear to an Israeli proposal for an immediate of a written agreement for an enduring ceasefire.

The snub reflected Syria's determination to exploit to the full what it sees as the failure of Israel's military

Syrian officials do not ad-vertise their gratification, but state-controlled Damascus papers have fewer inhibi-"The Israeli aggression went wrong for both Israel and the US, which are now on the defensive.

"It is now necessary to go beyond a simple cesseffre agreement that could collapse at any moment. The funda-mental issue — which is the Israeli occupation of South Lebanon — must be tackled. The Lebanese army must

replace the Israeli one."

The paper said the French
peace plan had a much better chance of success because it was based on the UN Security Council resolution 425 of 1978 The resolution calls for an unconditional Israeli withdrawal

from Lebanese territory.

Meanwhile in Qana, southern Lebanon, workmen began digging a mass grave for the more than 100 Lebauese refu-gees who were killed in the Israeli shelling of the UN base on April 18. Hassan Fetouni, in charge

of the work, said the funeral would be held after Israel ended its blitz. Nasri Abu Dib, a worker, wept as he operated "I count them all as my parents, my children and my family," he said.

Strong man' Peres fights his

Teachers relieved of 'violent' boy

EACHERS at Glaisdale school in Nottingham will be asked today to lift their strike threat after a deal last night allowing them to avoid contact with Richard 13-year-old whom they tried to have expelled.

The boy's parents agreed with David Higgins, the head teacher; and Nottinghamshire education authority, on a regime to let the boy stay on the school roll, but segregated from other pupils for the time

For five half-days a week he would be taught at the school by Mr Higgins or a teacher brought in from a special unit. For two half-days he would be taught at home, and for three half-days he would go to a pupil referral unit—one of the "sin bins" set up to rehabilitate disruptive pupils. Rilary Freeman, the solici-tor representing the boy's parents, said negotiations with the head and local authority had been constructive and the arrangement would lead to Richard's reintegra-

rangemen monthly. It was still unclear las night whether the deal would satisfy 20 teachers in the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers who threat-ened to strike indefinitely from Friday unless the boy was removed. It would have been the first teachers' strike over discipline for 10 years.

They have complained that Richard was involved in more

than 30 incidents and sus-

tion at Glaisdale. The ar-

excluded in February for threatening behaviour, dis bedience and disruption, but the expulsion order was over-turned by an appeals panel after Rita Wilding, his mother, said the complaints were exaggerated and did not justify his removal.

Nigel de Gruchy, the associ-ation's general secretary, said the boy's remaining on the school roll was bound to give his members cause for concern, but would not com on the prospects for strike action until they had had time to study it.

"At the moment it's not very promising . . . But I don't want to prejudice what our members might decide to do either way," he said.

A spokesman for the educa-

tion authority said teachers need no longer regard Rich-ard's presence as a health and safety risk, since they would The 18 Glaisdale teachers

belonging to other unions had earlier indicated they could live with the boy remaining live with the boy remaining at the school if they did not have to teach him.
Fred Riddell, chairman of the education authority, said he hoped Richard would res-

eintegrated ... in time". The authority would disclose the cost of the regime, thought to include £100 a day for a specialist sup-ply teacher. The school would be meeting its legal responsibility to Richard, and the cost would be met from the coun-

cil's special needs budget. Philip Wilding, the boy's father, said: "We are quite happy with the arrangement It is now up to the union — i it is unacceptable to then pended four times since No- then it is tough luck.



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John, the European Union isn't working. Moreover, if we have to break the law to force a fair deal then that is further evidence that we have a Europe of bureaucrats and bent rules. Today it is British beef that demonstrates the Euro-shambles of Brussels.



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Miss A describes alleged attack at 'castle' belonging to millionaire businessman and chairman of Blackpool FC

Oyston denies raping models



Owen Oyston, described by

model claimed yes-terday that she lost her virginity durby the millionaire businessman, Owen Oyston, at his 'castle" in north Lancashire. "I told him not to do it to me. I told him not to have sex with me," said the woman. now aged 25 and married, on

the first day of a trial at Liverpool crown court. "He kept saying 'I could learn you a Mr Oyston, aged 62, of Claughton Hall, near Lancaster, has denied raping Miss A

Miss A, who said she was aged either 17 or 18 at the time, said she had been intro-duced to Mr Oyston, chair-

and raping and indecently as-saulting Miss B.

agency with which she Miss B were registered. "quite sleazy".

She told the jury of eight women and four men that she

was driven one evening to Mr Oyston's home but did not know where she was going or

why.

She arrived in the dark at about midnight and Mr Oyston opened the front door. "He said 'Come inside. I'd like to show you round the house'.

hall and the dining room, she was taken upstairs to the main bedroom where there petrified. I was in the middle gin. He was going up and of nowhere with a man that I down on me and breathing

man of Blackpool Football hardly knew." she told Helen heavily. Eventually I strug wouldn't allow him to come bathroom and undressed. She Club, by Peter Martin, the Grindrod QC, prosecuting. | beat gled and pushed him away. | in." | bathroom and undressed. She came out, got into bed, and boss of the Manchester model | When she returned from | He said I was being stupid. I | Ms Grindrod said there was had sex with Mr Oyston. the bathroom after 10 minthen got up and put my knickers back on." utes, Mr Oyston was sitting

because her parents in

Grimsby were pressurising

given her 2200 and 2700 on

two separate occasions. She had met him while on model-

ling engagements in London

her to do well in her career

on, no trousers and no under-wear," she said, adding that house in south Manchester where she lived, and took a shower and a sleeping tablet. Asked about her state of mind, she said: "In absolute she had obeyed his instruction to sit next to him.
"Why?" asked Ms Grindrod. "Because I was scared, turmoil. Disgusted with my-self." She told no one of the young and frightened. He told me to remove my underwear." alleged rape and stayed on the books of the modelling agency

"I had a dress and jacket ou. He then laid down next to me. eaned over and pinned his hands across my chest. I didn't want him to do anything. I said nothing.
"He climbed on top of me and tried to insert his penis.
He just said 'Shut up and do

as you are told'. I was a vir-"Mr Oyston tried to come said Miss B sat on a chair up to my [hotel] room but I while Miss C went into the

a "consensual relationship" with Mr Oyston over a period of time. "I disagree," replied Miss A, six feet tall and with cropped blonde hair.
Throughout her evidence,

Mr Oyston, in a dark blue suit and a Blackpool FC tie, took

Ms Grindrod described how Miss B sat in the back of Mr Martin's car during a journey to Claughton Hall. Mr Oyston unzipped his flies and forced her to have oral sex with him. When they reached his have taken Miss B, 16 at the time of the allegad offences, and a third girl, Miss C, into bedroom. Ms Grindrod

The court heard that Mr

Oyston then ordered Miss B into bed. She did as she was told and Mr Oyston had sex with her while Miss C was still in bed. "She lay still and unresponsive, making it clear that she was not consenting. said Ms Grindro

Ms B also stayed on with the modelling agency. "Why?" asked Ms Grindrod. "Her age, the shame, the difficulty of explaining to her parents, the fear that she would not be believed against the word of Mr Oyston.

She added that when Mr Oyston was asked about the allegations, he denied rape and said the back of the car was too cramped for indecent

Sack racist, says student union

Gary Younge

STUDENTS at Edinburgh university have called for the sacking of a psychology lecturer who claims black people are less intelligent than whites, and has defined himself as "a scientific racist".

The university's student union executive unanimously backed calls for Christopher Brand, whose book The g Factor, was recently withdrawn by publishers, "to be removed permanently from his teaching responsibilities". Their stance was supported by a two-thirds majority at a full meeting of students last

night. Union vice-president Catherine Bromley said: "It is time for us to take a strong and resolved stance on this issue. What remains paramount is that the needs and desires of the students are met and their confidence

restored."
The furore over the book erupted 10 days ago when Mr. Brand told the press he was "proud to be racist in a scientific sense". "It is scientific fact that black Americans are less intelligent than white Americans." Americans.

He went on to suggest that single mothers should be per-suaded to mate with higher IQ males to widen the gane pool of their offspring with some intelligent forbears. "They should be encouraged to have sex with higher IQ boys. We could teach these girls that it would be highly

Students have been boycotting Mr Brand's lectures and last week, in a secret ballot of class members, 90 per cent voted for him to be removed responsibilities.

No caveat can prevent current and future students 'scientific racist'", says the union motion. It demands an ty that any student who does not wish to attend Mr Brand's ectures will not be penalised

The New York-based pub-lishers, John Wiley & Sons, last week decided not to publish the book.

"The management does not want to be associated with a book that makes assertions that we find repellent," a company spokeswoman said.

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in private, administrators at Edinburgh university are by the row. But in public the university has stood by Mr Brand, refusing to take any ing that intellectual freedom should not be threatened. "University staff are free to express their views as long as they remain within the law."

Two-year-olds sent to school 'like animals'

John Carvel

SURGE in the number of two-year-olds at independent prep schools yesterday prompted a leading children were being treated "like young animals", staying with their mothers only as long as they were biologically

"Women these days want to be married and have children, but they also want to carry on their careers," said Paddy Holmes, head of Dit-cham Park School in Petersfield, Hampshire, and chair-woman of the Independent

"For some, a prep school is the only alternative to a nanny. It works well socially and aducationally, but we may live to reap the divi-dends in social terms of children separated from their parents from the age of two."

ing on a survey by the Inde-pendent Schools Information rvice (Isia) showing there are 4,584 two-year-olds at prep school this year, an increase slight rise in the total of pu-pils of all ages in private education was entirely accounted for by the boom in places for children under six. 'We are really beginning as

a nation to produce children treated in many ways more with their mothers only as long as they are biologically dependent," she said.

from their mothers the more | numbers at private school.

Age of independence

lems later. The best organised nursery schools could help overcome any damage caused to children's future moral and

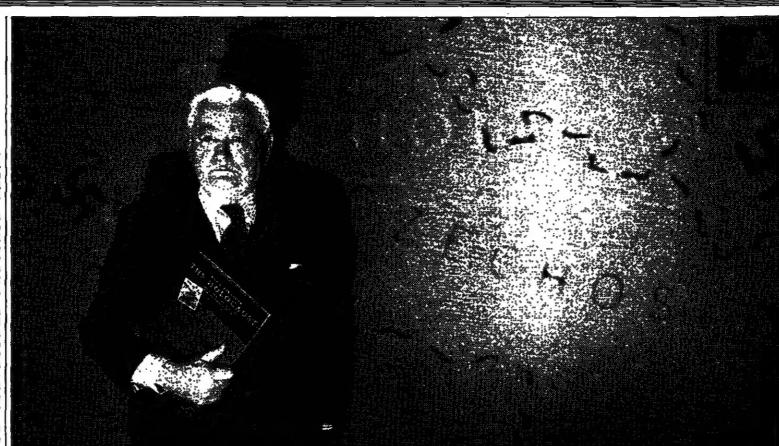
"But some children even in napples are now going to school and losing that bond because both parents are won't really know the results of that for many years, but it is something we ought to be a

little more conscious of." Mrs Holmes said her own school took day pupils aged four to 16, but she defended others which set an entry age think we can do it better than anyone else. But we still ques tion whether it is the best thing." She would have strong reservations about accepting children aged two.
The 4,584 two-year-olds

were all day pupils, and the Isis figures — covering 80 per cent of fee-paying pupils — showed there were only about 500 boarders under eight. Other head teachers at the launch of the Isis survey said the growth in the number of primary age children at independent schools demon-

strated parents' dissatisfac-tion with the state sector, particularly over class sizes. More than a million primary school children in state schools are taught in classes

David Woodhead the Isia director, said numbers of pulike young animals, staying pils at its member schools rose by almost 3,000 to 462,443. in spite of a further slight de-Research done over many nearly 8 per cent of British years showed the younger schoolchildren and marked the first increase since 1991 in



Lord Bramall, chairman of trustees: Project within museum's remit as an objective historical account

Holocaust given permanent exhibition site

David Falrhall

eum is to mark the permanent Holocaust exhibition in south London. The museum's director. Robert Crawford, said yes terday that the £13 million People might now be plans would meet a clear prompted to ask: "How demand from schools which now teach the history of Nazi Germany's Asked if the exhibition with the effect on civilians. The cached Belsen just after the camp was liberated, be raised, in part throughout the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through the camp was liberated, be raised, in part through

slaughter of 6 million Jews would make any reference as part of the national curriculum. The exhibition would fill a gap in the much would make any reference would make any reference would make any reference would make any reference with the much would make any reference would make any reference with the much would make any reference with th seum's coverag millennium by opening century war and address important moral questions. Ordinary men and women had taken part in the Holocaust or turned a blind eye. People might now be prompted to ask: "How

tended to include the story of the Holocaust in a dis play covering other instances of genocide.

But it was decided this

oculate" future generations against racism. The former archbishop of

Canterbury, Lord Runcie, who as a young soldier reached Belsen just after the camp was liberated, recalled that when asked if there was such a thing as a

seum's trustees, said the project was completely

within their remit. It was

Provided the money can be raised, in part through a bid for heritage lottery funds, it is planned to open

MP accuses Blair press aide account --- Mr Allason was as | lason "was challenged by 50 | letter from Mr Campbell giv-usual presenting his own | MPs last night to demonstrate | ing assurances that he had David Palifeter ■ONY Blair's press secre He maintained that the tary, Alastair Campbell

was accused in the High Court vesterday of orchestrate about the Tory MP Rupert Allason four years ago when he was political editor of the Daily Mirror.

Mr Allason, who is demand-ing damages for malicious falsehood, claimed that Mr Campbell and two journalis colleagues concocted and the reported an early day motion in the Commons that attacked the MP. Launching his 24th civil litigation — 22 won, one drawn, by his own land and said that Mr Al-

story was the culmination of a campaign of animosity against him after he had criti-cised Robert Maxwell, the Mirror's former owner, who

In response to a 1992 attack on Mr Maxwell by Mr Allason, a Mirror editorial accused him of cowardly and dishonourable behaviour.

Mr Allason sued and won

sioners by giving them his es-timated £250,000 libel damages. Mr Allason won the money from the Daily Mirror not to name the MP because the conversation between

over articles concerning Rob-ert Maxwell." The story, Mr Allason said, was "untrue in almost every

respect".

Besides the wrong damages figure, Mr Allason discovered that only seven MPs had signed and that on the eve-

not been behind the attack. But he was told by a Labour MP that Mirror journalists in the lobby had set the story up. Mr Allason chose yesterday

But he added: "The first de fendant [Mr Campbell] is a very powerful figure in the Labour Party and is some-what feared by Labour mem-

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| Nigeria | £7.05 | £11.05 | 35% |
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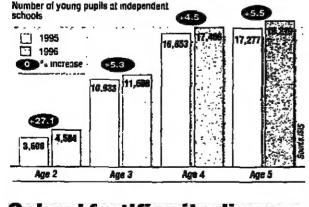
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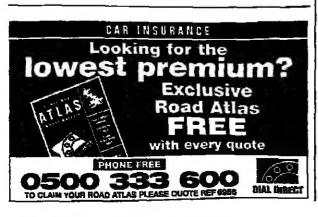
School fortifies its dinners by buying bread and butter

A SCHOOL is buying bread and butter to supplement meagre school dinners. Lionel Gent, headmaster of Polygon school. Southampton, for children with special needs, acted after staff and parents complained many pu-

pils were going hungry. each, are supplied by Hampeach, are supplied by Hamp lar school both types are pro-shire Caterers and consist of vided because they have pri-

children can pay for what they want but at small schools like ours children get set dinners ... it is all about budgets and the bigger youngsters are missing out." Hampshire county council

denied that portions were too small. "We provide two different sizes of meals - for children at primary school and The meals, costing £1.10 high schools. At this particualad, a hot dish and dessert. mary and high school aged Mr Gent said: "Most days children." The school had there is simply not enough on said it was happy with the the plates. Bigger schools new portions.





Eternal youthfulness endears Cliff to female heart

JE IS the same age as Tunion leader Jimmy Knapp, dresses like the man from C&A, and has not had sex in 38 years. Meet women's top choice for an ideal lover — Sir Cliff Rich-

of pop is also the man most whole 15-65 age range he women want to marry, ac enjoys the affections of 20

cording to a poll to be pub- | per cent. In second place a lished in Bella magazine a lover, and in top place for this week. Sir Cliff, who is set to Hugh Grant, with 15 per play Heathcliff in the musi-

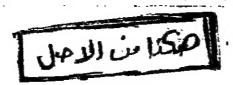
cal adaptation of Emily Bronte's Wuthering Heights in September, breaks most hearts in the 44-55 age bracket, where a third wanted to be his reallife living doll. Across the

cent of all age ranges vot-ing for bim.

Not surprisingly, given recent very public indiscre-tion, Grant does not go down as such a popular choice for a husband, slipping to 11 per cent, in third place behind comedian Robbie Coltrane.

I was taken aback when a twin-set and pearls acolyte asked me if I had seen Ricki's drag queen show. Interpreting my silence as disapproval the acolyte leapt down my throat: "Oh God, Imogen, how not nineties! It's absolutely brilliant. It's like Dame Edna, Mrs Doubtfire, Priscilla and The Crying Game all rolled into one."

imogen Stubbs G2 page 4



racist says student union

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Council heads off RCN debate with 'policy' ban for life



David Brindle on reaction to outcry

Rapists face nursing bar

nurses under plans by the profession's reg-

The move, in response to an outcry when a nurse was put back on the register last month, emerged shead of an emergency debate today at the Royal College of Nursing's annual congress. Delegates will discuss a proposition that there are "categories of crimi-nal offence which should prevent nurses being registered

The regulatory body, the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, says it has no power to enact this in its rules.

But it is planning to declare a general, internal policy that would have the same practi-

chief executive and registrar, vesterday told, a fringe meet-ing at the congress in Bournemonth: "What we can look at

which there would not normally be restoration to the register unless there were compelling reasons to do so."
Yuan How Choy, aged 50 and from East Sussex, was restored to the register by the council's professional conduct committee after being duct committee after being struck off in 1985 following

with her. The college is seeking a ju-dicial review of the restora-tion decision, although it ad-

mits it opposed Mr Choy's striking off 10 years ago when he was a college member.

Officials of the council yesterday appeared to be distancing themselves from the Choy garn decision. case decision, which was taken on a 2-1 vote by an elected committee of three. Tariq Hussain, the council's professional conduct director, said: "In the and, it's those

members of that committee

meeting it would be contrary not only to the law governing the council, but also to jus-tice, to put lifetime bans on certain offenders.

"It is based upon a rehabili-tation model that once some-

June. It is believed council members will be urged to endorse policy statements

There are some things you can do in rules — some things you can do in policy," Mr Hussain told reporters.

The council is also under fire over a disclosure that it has reserves of £13.6 million. The congress will on Friday debate a call for a three-year more to rule of three three.

ONVICTED rapists are to be effectively barred from which there would not normally be restoration to the register of nurses under register unless there were the restoration to the register unless there were the register unless there were the restoration to the register unless there were the register unless the register unless the register unless there were the register unless the register unless there were the register unless the register unless there were the register unless there were the register unless the register unl with kid gloves

URSES yesterday ban on boxing now." The came out heavily against the idea of debated the boxing issue.

The RCN congress voted by a 75 per cent majority not to call for a ban on the sport. A ban has been a policy of the British Medical Association since 1982.

Nurses said outlawing boxing would drive it underground and increase its health risks, but also ar-gued that the relative risks were anyway not sufficient evidence for a ban.

Christine Hancock, RCN general secretary vaid: There is no doubt that the clinical evidence doesn't automatically support a body was "no longer independent". The move reflects nurses' anger at the review body's endorsement over the past two years of government plans for local pay

> This year, the seven members of the body recom-mended a 2 per cent national pay rise to be supplemented locally. Ms Hancock said the reso-

ation represented "a strong personal attack on the integrity and behaviour of those review body members"

The review body is ap-pointed by the Prime Minis-ter. Since last year, it has been chaired by Bryan Rigby, a businessman and former deputy director gen-eral of the CBL Five of the six other members are

A spokesman for the Prime Minister's office said: "The nurses' review body has been, is, and will remain independent of

News in brief

Extradition case opens in S Africa

THE legal battle by John Paul Grecian to avoid extradition to the US finally got under way in a Johannesburg magistrates court yesterday when his lawyers accused Interpol of "luring and tricking him" into South Africa to secure his arrest. Counsel for the man who tipped off Scotland Yard on Operation Babylon — Sadam Hussein's Iraqi Supergun project — outlined a seven-point defence against the extradition warrant, includ-

ing the claim that the charges against him were political.

Mr Grecian, aged 40, who has been in prison since his arrest on December 15, had been arrested on an American warrant charging him with fraud, conspiracy and breaches of a US arms embargo against Iraq, while visiting his flances in South Africa

after allegedly obtaining assurances from Interpol that there was no warrant out for him.

The extradition hearing is expected to continue until Friday. The case appears to be causing the South African government some embarrassment, opening it to accusations of currying favour with the US over a long-running diplomatic row relating to the illegal purchase of American military technology in the apartheid era. — David Beresford in Johannesburg

Judge frees woman

AJUDGE freed a sex-change woman from jail yesterday after deciding a \$15,000 trial on a charge of importuning would be a waste of money. "What are we doing here?" Judge Peter Jackson asked Southwark crown court prosecutor Nicholas Bleaney. "The jury is almost certainly likely to acquit. Even if they do convict, I am not going to do anything about it because she has spent four weeks in custody on remand, the equivalent of a two-month

A few minutes later Mr Bleaney, after leaving the court briefly, said it had been decided to offer no evidence on two charges of importuning in Mayfair, central London, during March and June

Danielle King — born Daniel, aged 33, of New Cross, south-east London, bad denied both charges but agreed to be bound over in the sum of 250 for 12 months. A day's imprisonment was also imposed on each of two admitted counts of falling to attend court, but the judge said that as she had effectively served the sentence already she was free to go.

Search fails to find body

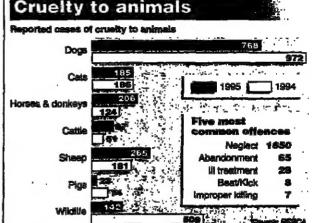
POLICE yesterday dug up the garden of a house in Wood End, Coventry, in search of the body of a teenage mother who disap-peared four years ago on the way to visit her parents. The search followed a tip-off, but last night it had been completed with no new leads found. A police spokeswoman said any new lines of inquiry would be pursued and the residents of the house searched had been full to consenting.

been fully co-operative.

Nicola Payne was 18 when she was last seen on Decamber 14.
1991, after leaving the home of her boyfriend, Jason Cook, in Wood
Rnd. She left Mr Cook's house to walk to her parents' home about 10 minutes away but never arrived. Police stressed that Mr Cook

had been eliminated from the inquiries.

A huge police search and a \$10,000 reward for information failed to produce any clues as to Ms Payne's whereabours. The police have had a series of anonymous tip-offs but none has led to anything. More than 30 officers from West Midlands police took part in yesterday's search. — Duncan Compbell



THE RSPCA yesterday called for a nationwide scheme of dog registration using microchips. Releasing its annual figures for reported cases of animal cruelty, the society pointed out that dogs remained the largest category despite a fall in the number of cases by one fifth. The society stressed that neglect, rather than cruelty, was the issue, and said the impulse-buying of pets was one of the main reasons. It hoped a government-backed registration scheme to replace the dog licensing system could be introduced soon.

Richard Davies, the society's chief inspector, said that every day his officers dealt with the symptoms of neglect— starvation, worm or flee infestation, and injuries or illness left

untreated for months. "If only it was law that every dog had to untreases for months. "If only it was law that every dog had to be microchipped and registered, then we could bring irresponsible pet owners to justice." Microchipping requires a computer chip being painlessly implanted beneath an animal's skin to record its ownership history. Mr Davies said: "We are still a nation of animal lovers but there is an element who consider themselves animal keepers. These people will put pets in the garden shed and just forget about them."

Lottery cash for disabled

HRALTH, disability and care organisations were yesterday invited to apply for cash from a \$150 million National Lottery grants scheme. Winners will be announced in the autumn.

The health grants form the third programme of funding released by the National Lottery for social purposes. The first covered poverty and the second youth. Both have attracted around 15,000 applications, of which one in six have been granted. David Sieff, chairman of the National Lottery Charities Board, said the the health, disability and care programme aimed to fund schemes for people suffering from major disabilities or chronic illnesses, and those needing long term care. linesses, and those needing long term care.

Girl trapped in club

NEW fears about an unlicensed "rave" club were expressed yesterday after an 18-year-old girl ended up trapped inside it for 38 bours. Ann-Marie Conniter was rescued by firemen who cut through heavy steel doors of the Coliseum club at Stockton, Cleveland, after a passer-by spotted her frantically waving.

The teenager from Billingham should have left with other ravers at 8am on Sunday but is believed to have fallen asleep.

At about 9.30pm on Monday her cries for help and waying through a letterbox caught someone's attention and the first

origade was called. The club has been at the centre of repeated closure demands by local residents and councillors. Earlier this year, an anti-drugs operation by 200 police led to 11 arrests. Barry Woodham, chairman of Stockton council's public protection committee said: "It beggars belief that someone could go

Evans to stay at Radio 1

CHRIS Evans (right), halled as the saviour of Radio 1, has signed a one year extension to his £1 million plus contract with the BBC, it was announced yesterday. With more than 7 million listeners a week, his show has been credited with turning round Radio 1's ratings, adding more

who celebrates his first anniversary on the station's breakfast show today — would not stay beyond 1996, but now



conviction for raping a for-mer patient. He had previous convictions for stealing a sadone has served their sentence, banning boxing, parting company with doctors on the issue, writes David they have a chance to come back into society." However, council officials are reviewing procedures and ative and administering it to a patient in order to have sex will report to the council in

aimed at preventing any repetition of the Choy affair. "There are some things you

moratorium on the threeyearly £36 re-registration fee. Ethel Corduit, from Croydon, said she was in favour

of a ban because she had nursed two ex-boxers who had suffered strokes and because she feared for her 19-year-old nephew, a boxer about to turn

However, Mike Hayward, from Portsmouth, said a ban would raise wider questions. "How many out-of-condition business executives drop dead on squash courts chasing a little rubber ball around? Should we

ban squash?"

Later, the congress voted by 94-per cent for an emer-gency resolution declaring that the nursing pay review

'Gay sex in club' report leads judge

to resign

PART-TIME judge has Aresigned after allegations that he was involved in gay

sex with two men at a sauna recorder Anthony Russell, 45. sent his resignation to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, after claims in Sun-day's News of the World about his visit to a men-only

Mr Russell, a bachelor, con firmed in a statement that he had visited the Greenhouse club in Walsall, West Mid-lands, where the newspaper reported that he spent 30 min-utes in the club's "dark room" with two men, a medi-cal consultant from Birming-

ham and a bospital porter. The statement went on: "I do not propose to comment further about the details, save to say I did visit the premises, having recently received some very distressing per-sonal news, about which I am not prepared to comment, and I needed to escape for a couple of hours." Parts of the report

of hours." Parts of the report were true but "the account was factually inaccurate in some respects and exaggerated... My actions have caused no harm to anyone, except myself and my immediate family for whose support I am grateful."

Recorders are senior barris-

Recorders are senior barris-ters and solicitors who sit at least 20 days a year as judges in crown courts and county courts. Many become fulltime judges.

Mr Russell, who sat as a judge at Bolton crown court,

also wrote to the Attorney General, Sir Nicholas Lyell, resigning his post as counsal to the Inland Revenue. A Lord Chancellor's Department spokeswoman sald Lord Mackay would probably issue a statement today.

stated that being gay is no bar to a judicial appointment. But sexual activity in a gay sauna might amount to gross indecency between men in a pub-lic place, a criminal offence carrying a maximum fiveyear sentence. First offenders are usually fined.

chambers in Manchester were "deeply upset." Senior clerk Donald Waller said: It's a private matter. Mr Russell is still a practising barris-

Chief justice in Beaten buskers ponder legal challenge change of tune on Tube Division, headed by the Lord Chief Justice. The judges' opposition HE Lord Chief Justice

could face an embar-rassing legal challengs in one of his own courts as a long-simmering row over barristers' monopoly threatens
to come to a bead
Lord Taylor opposes a
move, approved by the Lord
Chancellor, Lord Mackay, to

allow Crown Prosecution Service lawyers to conduct some of their own cases in the crown courts. At present the service pays barristers in private practice because its own lawyers have no right to appear in the crown court.

Lord Taylor is one of four

senior judges who along with Lord Mackay, have power to veto applications for new court rights under the 1990 Courts, and Legal Services Act. The vote of any one judge is enough to scupper the CPS lawyers' application, but Lord Taylor is supported by one of the other judges, Sir Stephen Brown, head of the High Court's family division. A source near the centre of

the battle said a judicial review was "almost inevitable" if the plans were blocked.

Both the Law Society and the

Crown Prosecution Service
have been pressing for the change for six years.

change for six years.

A judicial review would be particularly embarrassing as such cases are beard by the Divisional Court, part of the reforms, while the position of Sir Richard, Soott, the High Court Queen's Bench Vice-Chancellor, is unknown.

means that str years after the Courts and Legal Services Act, which was meant to end barristers' monopoly on higher court advocacy, CPS lawyers are still no nearer appearing in the crown courts. Last June the Lord Chan-celler's Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Con-

on ousking.

Italian musician and magician Franco de Cristofaro, aged 48, funded by the collective, asked two judges to overduct (ACLEC) narrowly recommended that govern-ment lawyers should not have the right to prosecute because they lacked independence. Eight members, including the solicitors and most of the turn his conviction by Bow Street stipendiary magistrate Jeremy Connor last June for

court rights, while eight, in-cluding the barristers, were against. The chairman, Lord Steyn, a law lord and former barrister, cast his deciding vote with the anti camp. The Lord Chancellor's Deperiment has been sitting on the report for 10 months, de-spite strongly-worded perlia-mentary questions from Lord Ackner, a former law lord and leading opportunity

leading opponent of greater rights of audience for CPS lawyers, criticising delays.
Legal advisers in his de-partment are understood to have advised Lord Mackay that the minority is legally right and the majority wrong. Of the two other judges with a veto, Sir Thomas Bing-ham, Master of the Rolls, is

day's appeal. His counsel, Tim Clerk, told the judges the ruling meant that members of the collec-tive, who were not people of means, would now have to go back to their illegal busking order to hear illegal busking in order to pay for their unsuccessful challenge.

De Cristofaro said afterwards: Tim very sad and disappointed because we are genine buskers. We never harass people for money. We play our music, we are good entertainers—and we have have



Franco de Cristofaro blows his horn outside the High Court

LT spokeswoman Ann

Laker said later the authority was considering whether there should be a change. "We are not musical philis-tines. We are reviewing this issue, which is a complex one." But she added that safety was the priority and in the past buskers had ob-structed escalators, exits and emergency buttons, and their music had drowned emer-

ency amouncements.
"Many of our customers do feel annoyed and even threat-ened by buskers, particularly those who play and ask for money on tube trains." Guitarist David Gilbert, spokesman for the collective,

which has already raised £600 for yesterday's court action, welcomed the LT statement as "the most positive thing we have heard from them". He added: "It is hopeful But obviously we have failed in the High Court and we are not going to get the legal status we wanted.

This is not going to drive us away from the underground or anywhere else we ee fit to play. They cannot point to any incident on the Underground

Newspaper report 'invaded Selina Scott's privacy'

Hopes fade for lone sailor missing from fire-hit yacht

POLICE were continuing their search yesterday for clues after the baffling disappearance of a lone sailor whose fire-damaged boat was found drifting off Cornwall.

Thomas Jardine, 46, set sail from the Solent on Saturday for Plymouth on a week long cruise. He has not been seen or heard of since:
His white hulled yacht, the
Rumbumble, was discovered

10 miles south-west of the Liz-

said the Rumbumble's buoy ancy aids, fire extinguishers, and dingly were intact. For the past three to four years Mr Jardine had moored his boat on the Beaulien River in the Solent. He was believed to have been living on the Rumbumble since separating from his wife Susan somie months ago. Mrs Jar-dine was refusing to take calls

Aylesbury, Buckinghalnshire master for the Beaulieu River, said Mr Jardine had falled up with fuel last Friday and had left at noon the following day. He was quite and by the Navy's fisheries protection vessel Lindistarne at lunchtime on Monday, A boarding party found extensive fire damage to the capin. Cheery and we waved to each Devon and Cornwall police other.

yesterday at her home in

Andrew Culf Media Correspondent

Mr Justice Newman ruled the

ordered de Cristofaro, who al-

ready owes more than £2,000 in outstanding lines for busking, to pay the costs of yester-

tainers — and we have

ELEVISION presenter Se-lina Scott's privacy was invaded in a newspaper story about an affair she was al-leged to have had 15 years ago, the Press Complaints commission rules today.

Ms Scott complained the

article in the News of the World wrongly claimed she had had an affair with a man on the Isle of Bute, She said the story intraded on her privacy without any public in-terest justification. The newspaper provided the commission with a sworn affidavit from the man which claimed he had a sexual relationship with Ms Scott until 1979.

to consider the extent to which people had put their private lives into the public domain when adjudicating on breaches of privacy. It said cuttings supplied by the News of the World of interviews given by Ms Scott, a former BBC television presenter who now hosts a chat show on the satellite station NBC Super Channel, were not enough to "disentifie" her from a degree of privacy concerning events in her life a considerable time

before. The commission warned the Daily Mirror after TV star Robbie Coltrane complained his privacy had been invaded when the paper published his

Mail for serialising a book by Nick Leeson, the man who brought down Barings Bank, and is serving a jail sentence in Singapore for fraud. It had been alleged the serialisation breached the industry's code of practice banning payments The commission accepts the Dally Mall's argument it

had not paid anyone for the book rights.
But it decided the public interest in the collapse of Bar-ings justified the Mail's be-haviour, although the code Was now under review.

The Daily Star was censured for pelorative language in a report which said "crazies at a top security mental hospital refused to eat beef -commission rejected a because it might send them

The Lord Chancellor has than 500,000 listeners after 5 million deserted in two years. There were fears that Evans Colleagues at Mr Russell's

ter at these chambers and we he will stay at least until the support him 100 per cent." he will stay at least until the end of 1997. — Andrew Culf

for a 10 minute to the USA? nly £1.18 with us.

Weak Commonwealth curbs unlikely to sway Lagos |

Nigeria faces new action on abuses

ian Black

IGERIA must accept mission to discuss its human rights abuses or face new but lowminate in expulsion from the organisation, it was warned last night.

Commonwealth foreign ministers, meeting in Lon-don, overcame their divisions to formally caution the military regime of General Sani Abacha in Lagos, though they agreed only on limited mea-sures that are unlikely to force it to change its mind. Nigeria has delied interna-

tional outrage over last November's execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other Ogoni activists. The Commonwealth suspended Lagos over the hangings and set up an eight-member ministerial

and respect human rights. Lagos refused to allow the

Diplomats said the ministers — Britain's Malcolm Rifkind and colleagues from Canada, Ghana, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa and Zimbabwe — were likely to agree to restrict visas for members of the Nigerian regime, their families and collaborators, and per-

haps to a sporting ban.

Britain has opposed calls for a ban on air links, and proposals by Jamaica. Canada and South Africa for an end to export credits. Mr Rifkind told his colleagues that any measures had to be

'deliverable' More militant members say Britain is reluctant to take economic measures because geria, while the Foreign Office has told Washington it opposes an assets freeze as long as the US continues to group to prod the long as the US continues to to restore democracy buy Nigerian oil — the

regime's main source of for-

that vately poor human rights records are reluctant to move too strongly against Nigeria, for fear they may face similar

censure.
"There was general agreement that action has to be taken," said one Commonwealth official. "The Commonwealth official." monwealth can't stand still. Its credibility is at stake. new sanctions could be up-

graded to culminate in even-

tual expulsion at the Edinburgh summit next year.

Don McKinnon, the New Zealand foreign minister, said yesterday: "The Nigerian regime has no interest at all in the Commonwealth, or membership of the Common-wealth, or the ability to [have] dialogue with the Common-wealth. That makes their

future position in the Com-

Silicon city creaks under the strain of its success

Explosive growth threatens Bangalore's rise to pre-eminence in India's software industry, writes Suzanne Goldenberg

HEY say they can see the future unfold at Electronic City — not in the characters that blink on a thousand screens, but in the flelds that slowly vanish becath layers of concrete. neath layers of concrete.

silicon valley, the purpose-built industrial park is at the forefront of a hi-tech boom that has made the country the second largest exporter of computer software after the United States. Last year sales abroad leapt 60 per cent to 24,500 million rupees

(£480 million). Bangalore has become the Indian destination of choice for multinationals, especially hi-tech giants such as Texas Instruments. Motorola and Hewlett Packard, but also niche firms like HealthScribe India Pvt — which survives by virtue of the Internet, the time difference between the

medical care. HealthScribe is the brainchild of Akasha Ellis and Karan Kaur Khaisa, both the children of American converts to Sikhism. The couple train operators to transcribe medical notes dictated by doctors in the US and sent to India as voice mail at the end of the working day. Surrounded by books on anatomy and medical dictionaries, the operators then send the rambled mutterings back as comulete medical records enabling the doctors to submit a speedy claim to insurance

commanies. In July, the couple plan to take on more than 100 train-ees, and admit they are overwhelmed by the speed with which the business has grown since August 1994. They arrived in Bangalore soon after India eased the entry for foreign firms into the soft-ware industry. "Once it opened up we came running." Mr Ellis said.

The problem is, so did everyone else. The Bangaiore City Corporation estimates that in the past five years the city has nearly doubled in population, to 7.5 million

Town planners never envisaged that Bangalore's narrow arterial roads would carry

citizens who volunteer as Popularly known as India's traffic wardens. The small airport designed for 700 people now hosts 6,000

passengers a day.
And when the foreigners
moved in local people moved
out, unable to keep up with the escalation in property prices caused by speculators. electricity and water, with power supplies at least 25 per cent less than is needed. Officially, the lights are out in

We should have been able to make plans to sustain the inflow of people. The city

can't take it.'

Bangalore for three hours a day but, in practice, power cuts last far longer, and for much of the time the voltage is too low to run appliances. Like all the other firms at Electronic City, HealthScribe relies on its own generators and brings its water in by tanker. It also runs a shuttle service for employees - the 15-mile journey from town

of the traffic. Although Bangalore's rise and impending collapse is spectacular, urban planners say it should have been pre-

takes close to an hour because

dicted long ago.
"The growth has not always been sudden, so we should have been able to make plans to sustain the inflow of people," said Mamatha people," said Mamatha Gowda, the spokesman for the Bangalore City Corporation. ellite towns."

firms arrived in Bangalore 30 per cent have them." the fairly recently, the scene for official. Brijesh Gupta, more than 850,000 vehicles a the city's explosion was set in said. - Reuter

the 1980s, when Indian firms took flight from the prohibitive costs of Bombay and New Delhi. Bangalore offered rela-

Until the boom years. Bangalore was a sleepy southern town, a retirement destination for civil servants and the well-to-do. But its tranquility has given way to rapidly growing industry where the average employee is single, aged 29 and highly paid.

But despite its evident prosperity, industry sources fear that the city may become a software sweatshop, churning out the designs of other firms. rather than exploiting engi-neering talent. Mr Ellis denies that he and

other foreign firms are taking crisis in Lebanon will be mea-advantage of cheap Indian surable only when the terms We are giving an educa tion, we pay for the educawe transport them. we feed them and we give them a

promise conditions will im

wage costs as well as lack of amenities, large companies are already planning their flight to other mid-sized cities - Mangalore and Hyderabad in the south, Pune in the wes - the next frontiers of the sil-

house at the weekend in which 17 people died — including two Britons — Indian authorities have stepped up a campaign against illegal boarding houses in New Delhi, a senior "The city just can't take it anymore unless they start sat-police official said yesterday." Although foreign software to have licences but only 25 to

Watchful . . . Shimon Peres, encircled by bodyguards, one with video camera, at a Memorial Day event in Jerusalem yesterday PHOTOGRAPH, JEROME DELA tively cool summers, and a huge pool of highly skilled, English-speaking labour—the result of New Delhi's decision decades ago to concentrate telecom and defence research there 'Strong man' Peres fights his last battle research there.

Cosmopolitan Bangalore has become a new test mar-ket. It was the first city to have an outlet for Kentucky Fried Chicken and Littlewoods opened a compact three-storey department store

Israel at its centre. However, Mr Peres la defending a perilously narrow lead in the opinion polls, by projecting himself not as a vi-sionary of peace, but as a miltary strong man. The electoral impact of the

surable only when the terms of the inevitable truce are not good for Mr Peres. assassination of his predeces-

better salary than they could et anywhere. And they get a chance to learn about technology."
While city authorities

prove - there are plans for new power stations and an industrial park with guaran-teed electricity 40 miles away - it will take time to see changes. Complaining of spiralling

icon revolution.

• After the collapse of a guest

Phil Gunson in Mexico City writes ary, the ruling Labour party had a comfortable lead over the nationalist opposition Likud. Mr Peres had a 15-20 perwas passed by 50 votes to one, with two abstentions, by the forum in Geneva.

centage point lead over the Likud leader, Binyamin Netanyahu, as the country's choice for prime minister. In the May 29 general elec tion, Israelis will for the first time choose a prime minister as well as a party. Whoever wins, regardless of his party; performance, will be assured of the top job for four years.

Mr Peres's stock was proba bly at its height in early Janu nised the assassination of the country's most wanted man, the Islamist bomb-maker Yahya Ayyash. That was, with hindsight, a dreadful miscalculation. In late February and early March, the Islamist suicide bombers struck back, in Jerusalem, in Ashkelon, in Jerusalem again, and finally in Tel Aviv. in eig

es's lead evaporated. The subsequent repression in Israeli-occupied Palestinsor, Yitzhak Rabin, had galva-nised support for the peace process and for Mr Peres. ian areas, and the recruit-ment of the Palestinian presi-dent, Yasser Arafat, as Towards the end of Febru- Israel's agent in the drive

lives were lost, and Mr Per-

THE United States was the only country to vote against a resolution at the United Nations Human Rights Commission yester-day deploring Israel's The vote came as Israeli planes rocketed two south Lebanese villages and artillery pounded the south for the 13th day. — Reuter. attacks on civilians in southern Lebanon and calling for a halt to air raids.
The Egyptian resolution

against the Islamists in the autonomous enclaves of Gaza and the West Bank, went some way to restoring public confidence.

But still Mr Peres was s as an unsafe pair of hands in the main issue of this and That is why Lebanon was an inviting target for political and military intervention. The intervention was not

ciding with inconclusive Israel-Syria talks in the United States. Hizbullah guerrillas markedly stepped up attacks on Israeli and allied mercenary forces in south Lebanon in February and March. But the April 9 voiley of Ka-

tyusha rockets which sparked Israel's punitive action was also not without cause: in the days before the attack on Galilee, three Lebanese civilians had died, two of them in Is-

Britain was among US al-lies voting in favour.

raeli shelling. The Katyushas gave Mr Peres a chance to prove he was not shy of tough military action, and he selzed it with

igour. Operation Grapes of Wrath after it became clear that it had failed. The images of socalled pinpoint strikes with powerful as they had been during Desert Storm more than five years earlier. The winding trails of refugees, the

tinued to slam into Galilee. coverage in Israel concentrated on the stoic response of border communities under fire, Thousands fled, but un-like their counterparts in Lebanon, they had govern ment help to do so. Those who remained had bomb shelters

Even last Thursday's mas-sacre at Qana, when Israeli shells killed 102 refugees in a United Nations base, has not shaken the consensus that Operation Grapes of Wrath was and remains a legitimate way to defend Israel.

The irony is that the prospect of peace could be more damaging to Mr Peres than the option of war.

Before Qana, the government had been making what amounted to a call for the unbullah, and Lebanon's and Syria's acceptance of [smel's occupation of south Lebanon. be less triumphant. The restoration of an uneasy calm in many votes on May 29

TV quirk fosters outpost of Mexican culture

Residents of the isolated community of Tortel in Chile's far south even talk in a foreign accent thanks to satellite broadcasts from a continent away,

Derek Brown in Jerusalem

Israel will hold a general election which will have

profound impact on

regional peace moves.
For Shimon Peres, the

prime minister, the poll is a matter of political life or death. At 73, the perennial loser of Israeli politics has

possibly his greatest, and cer-tainly his last, chance to give

substance to his vision of a new Middle East order with

made clear. But the signs

Less than two months ago.

he looked upassailable. The

NTHE far south of Chile. | told reporters from the | for whom a cake is a pastel 25 miles from the nearest highway, lies a tiny vil-lage where the children speak Mexican-accented manish and football fans follow the Mexican team

No one is quite sure how it happened, but the 400 in-habitants of Tortel, some 1.500 miles south of Santi-ago, have for years been receiving a rogue Mexican television signal from the Solidarity satellite - in an area where the Andes mountain chain blocks all but the faintest crackle from Chile's own channels. "Down here you feel so isolated," one inhabitant

newspaper El Mercurio, "that instead of shadows we have echoes." Access to Tortel is solely

washes concrete road sur-faces away, so the only roads are made of wood. Electricity was installed just a few years ago and with it came TV programmes from the other end of the continent, modifying the children's accents and substituting Mexican idioms for local ones.

by boat. The heavy rainfall

In Chile a torto is a cake. But in Tortel, when a fouryear-old asks for a "ham tortu" his parents know just in what the comwhat he wants. Mexicans — call "real time".

use torto for a sandwich. The Tortelinos, as the inbabitants of this remote community are known. would be hard pressed to tell you how Chilean foot-ball heroes Colo-Colo are doing in the league. But thanks to Televisa they are

bang up to date on results in the Mexican play-offs.

As it happens, some of the top Mexican teams have Chilean players, and although Necaxa's Ivo Basay may not be aware of it, there are some dedicated fans back home who follow his every touch of the ball in what the computer buffs

With all the children watching the "Channel of the Stars", Tortel's librar-ian, Iris Herrera, was getting bored "because no one was interested in reading". Nowadays the signal is

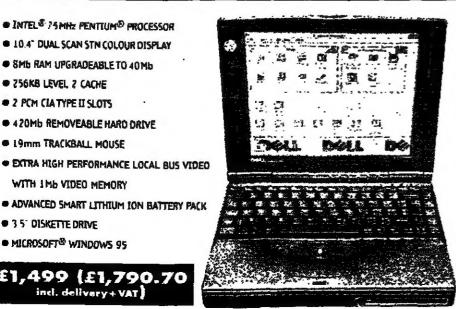
not quite so clear, she says, so the 73 children in the local school are less distracted from homework. Televisa. meanwhile,

which lost its long-standing monopoly of the Mexican airwaves several years ago. airwaves several years ago.
may derive a certain satisfaction from knowing that
one community — albeit a
rather small and distant
one — still has no choice of

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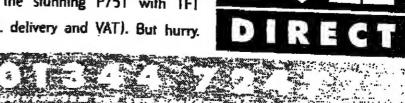
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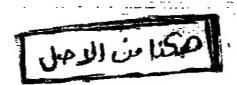
Windows 95

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- 45 M

Sput Turkey in fine

"Isuspect our marriage

Weader goes on tri

Wary traders draw line in the swamp

In the last of a series on Sino-Russian relations, James Meek in Vladivostok looks at a new demarcation of the frontier and finds locals afraid that if they give an inch, Beijing will take a mile

who has shopped all over and in the end decided the shops next door were best.
"I went to Turkey, and
Poland, but that takes an awful lot of time. China's very convenient. I've been there 30 times, once a month."

It takes a little over six hours by bus for Tatiana to get from Vladivostok to the teeming bazaars of China's north-eastern province of Ji-lin. No visa is needed. She shops for cheap clothes and sells them every weekend at the Chinese Market in the Russian port, earning incom-parably more than she used to working 70 hours a week as a enior gynaecologist.

She is delighted with the

comes to Moscow's agreement with Beijing to give China a few acres of swampland, a deal endorsed by President Boris Yeltsin, she is as indig-nant and stubborn as any other Bussian Far Restagaier other Russian Far Easterner.
"What belongs to us shouldn't be given away to anyone," she sald, "The border posts shouldn't be moved one single centimetre."

The rising opposition in Russia's Pacific Maritime Territory to the handover of the land, led by the regional governor, Yevgeny Nazdra-tenko, is an inconvenience for trip to Beijing. It is also hard to counter since Mr Nazdra-tenko, who is travelling with

ATIANA is a trader | nese and wishes Russia built | in the election campaign, who has shopped all | such good roads. But when it | It is a problem for the tory too, as they struggle to reconcile their old suspicions of their neighbour with the need to jump on the Pacific Rim bus before the other East Asian economies leave Russia even further hehind

> tales in the Moscow press of a Vladivostok overrun with ilegal Chinese immigrants, the a few rows of tarpaulin-covered stalls in a hollow be tween snow-streaked hum where Chinese and Russian traders compete to sell the same low quality clothes and electrical goods from Jilin. Chinese trader Li, huddling

of faith among Russians that Chinese goods were shoddy, so the Chinese did not bother offering anything well-made. othering anything well-made.
"If you tried to import a leather jacket worth \$500, they'd think you were cheating them," he said. "It's only worthwhile bringing in \$200 jackets. They don't understand that the \$300 Reebok trainers you can buy in Moscow are probably made in China."

probably made in China." Meagre as it is, the market is a revolution for a city which was opened to foreign ers four years ago. But Russians who would seem to be making a good living from the China trade turn out be embittered supporters of radical measures to shut it down. Irina Zaiko, who has bought in Jinin and sold in Russia once a week for more would like to see the frontier

closed for a time to allow Rus-

sian industrial entrepreneur

atives to be set up and free them from taxes," she said 'Many people organised of allowing them to develop the government opened the borders. People just aban-doned their businesses and started trading."
Relations between the two

groups of traders had cooled recently, she said. Chinese coming to Russia were now subject to a stricter visa regime and on her last visit to the Chinese town of Dunin, the windows on her bus had been broken by locals after an argument about rotten fruit.
All the ambivalence of the Maritime Territory towards its relationship with China

has come to focus on a patch of ponds and bogs covering four square miles on the left bank of the River Tuman, where the borders of Russia China and North Korea meet.



fore the latter disintegrated the demarcation of the Rus sian-Chinese border now being completed will see this land returned to China. Hostility to the handover virtually universal in the Maritime Territory. Quoting from a report by an obscure ance of "white" and "yellow" races in Asia, Mr Nazdra-tenko claims the new land would enable the Chinese to build a port with access to the Sea of Japan, drawing custom away from the Trans-Siberian railway and the ports around

In fact, Russia and North Korea would remain in control of access to the sea and China shows every sign of Territory's ports. But most Maritime citizens prefer to believe the Nazdratenko version — he was elected by a huge margin last year.

Historians say that the swamp contains the remains of Soviet soldiers killed in a battle with Japanese troops in the 1930s. Local Cossacks claim the land is theirs. Environmentalists say Chinese-fi-nanced development would destroy a wetland ecosystem of world importance. And a

Beneath all these concern Chinese to reclaim the whole Maritime Territory, an area larger than Belgium ceded to Moscow in 1860 when Beijing was buckling under French

Even Vladimir Stegny, who tional economic relations China and the Russian Far East expand their economies together, said he feared an overpopulated China a decade hence would find the sparsely peopled Russian lands irresistible.

"I fear ... there will be some kind of redistribution, particularly since the Chinese are paying so much attention to the modernisation of their armed forces," he said. "That's why Russia shouldn't be making even these small territorial conces-

World news in brief

ist battle

Paraguay leader appeals for calm

PARAGUAY'S President Juan Carlos Wasmosy, whose whereouts were unknown for several hours following a rebellion by abouts were imanown for several nours to howing a reterior of his army chief, reappeared in public yesterday and called for calm. "I ask you to return to your homes in peace," he told a cheering crowd of thousands outside the government house.

"Everything will be solved, for the good of all of us, without winners or losers," the president said.

Mr Wasmosy, Paraguay's first democratically elected president in nearly 50 years, sacked General Lino Oviedo on Monday accessing him of breaking a constitutional hab on military

day, accusing him of breaking a constitutional bah on military participation in politics. The general: who has made no secret or his ambition to be the 1998 presidential candidate for the ruling

Colorado Party, reacted by retreating to his barracks with his troops and demanding the president quit instead.

But the navy, air force and police backed Mr Wasmosy, joining the United States and Latin American leaders.

Mr Wasmosy yesterday called Gen Oviedo's deflance an "absurd act of aggression", and signed an order stripping him of command and banning him from office for 10 years. Gen Oviedo's followers in the congress accused the president of retaliation after they last week blocked a government move to award control of two toll bridges on the Brazilian border to compenies reportedly owned by Mr Wasmosy. - Reuter and AP, Asuncion.

Croatian bones of contention

PRESIDENT Franco Tudiman wants the remains of historically prominent Croats, including the late Yogoslav communist dicta-tor, Josip Broz Tito, and the head of Croatia's second world war "I support the idea that the bones of every Croatian man who

"I support the idea that the bones of every Croatian man who lived for Croatian he returned to Croatian soil," Mr. Tudiman said in an interview published yesterday in the government controlled newspaper. Vecarnji List. "Why leave Pavelic out of it?" Pavelic's pro-Nazi Ustashe regime murdered tensor thousands of Serbs, Jews and Gypsies between 1941 and 1945.

"[Pavelic's] idea of creating a Croatian state contained positive things, but it must be acknowledged that in the implementation of his policy he made terrible mistakes," Mr. Tudiman said.

He said on Monday "no more" than 40,000 people were killed

under Ustashe rule. Most historians put the number slaughtered at the Jasenovac death camp alone at 80,000. — Reuter, Zagreb.

Kurds put Turkey in the dock

THE first European Court of Human Rights cases involving Kurds who allege that they have been tortured and expelled from their homes by Turkish authorities, are the to be heard in

Strasbourg this week.
One of the applicants, Zeki Aksoy, aged 32, has since been killed. He claimed he was beaten, given electric shocks and hung by his arms. His father blames Turkish soldiers for the death. The landmark cases, supported by the London-based Kurdish Human Rights Project, represent the first time the Turkish

government has had to face such public accusations from its
Kurdish population in a European forum.

Ankara has long been a member of the Council of Europe, but
previous cases reaching the European Court in Strasbourg have
involved individuals from Turkish Communist or revolutionary

Gang suspects in murder

THE murder in Los Angeles of the Oscar-winning star of The Killing Fields film, Dr Haing Ngor, was the work of an Asian street gang, police believe. He was found shot dead in the drive way of his home near LA's Chinatown in February, with \$3,000 still inside his wallet.

But after interviewing relatives who saw him earlier that night, police have returned to their original robbery theory. They believe he was killed for a \$6,000 Rolex watch and a gold chain and locket he wore, containing a photograph of his wife who was killed by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia in the 1970s. Both items were missing from his body. It is believed his killers, said to be members of the Oriental Lexyboya gang, over-looked the wallet. — New York Dadly News.

Cult leader goes on trial



POLICE officers check a car trying to enter the compound of the Aum Shimrikyo doomsday cult at the foot of Mount Full in Japan, where several of the group's disciples remain.
Shoko Asahara, the cult's leader, goes on trial today for allegedly masterminding last year's deadly nerve gas attack on

the Tokyo subways.

The bearded, self-proclaimed messiah was arrested when police swooped on the Mount Fuji commune last May. Mr Asahara has spent the past 11 months in custody, and his cult — which once boasted more than 10,000 followers — has

tem — a move that could put pressure on Britain. The ance," Prof Prodi said.



Riding high . . . Aggrieved residents of Zürich's Münstergasse street fixed their bicycles to window frames yesterday after the landlord closed down a bicycle parking space to make way for a new restaurant

Chechen aide denies death of **Dudayev**

David Hearst in Moscow

ONFUSION sur-rounded the fate of the rebel Chechen leeder Dzhokhar Dudayev last night, after one of his leading spokesmen said he had been killed in a Russian rocket attack on a Chechen village.

on behalf of Gen Dudayev's government-in-exile said: 'Dahokhar Dudayev was killed on the night of April 21-22 near the village of Gekhi-Chu after a rocket strike."
Khozh-Akhmed Yarikhanov, a spokesman who led

negotiations with the Rus-sians in the Chechen capital Grozny last year, added: "Du-dayev has been killed, of that there can be no doubt.

But an hour later Gen Dudayev's personal secretary Saipudi Hasanov said his ing a normal regime", the Interfax news agency reported. Mr Hasanov confirmed there had been a rocket attack on Sunday night a mile south of Gekhi-Chu. He said two senior members of Mr Dudayev's circle had been killed his military procurator,
 Mahommed Zhanjev, and his spokesman in Moscow, Xa-

mada Kurbanov. Neither the Russian military authorities in Chechenia, nor Konstantin Borovoi, the state deputy who keeps in close contact with Gen Dudayev, could confirm

the report of his death.

More details of the attack emerged last night. Gen Du-dayev and his Rossian wife Alevtina had gone to Mr Zhaniev's house in Gekhi-Chu, planning to talk by satellite telephone to intermediaries in negotiations with

As the leaders walked into a field, they were attacked by Russian warplanes. One report said Gen Dudayev had died of his wounds and would

be buried in the nearby vil-lage of Shallegi.

The mystery about Mr Dudayev gave a further twist to Mr Yeltsin's chaotic attempts to pacify Chechenia before he goes to the electorate on June

If Gen Dudayev's death is confirmed, his fighters could well come under the more radical leadership of Shamil Basayev, the Chechen guer-rilla who led the first mass hostage-taking in the southern Russian town of Budyon novsk, and a recent ambush of a column of Russian troops in which more than 53 sol-diers were killed.

Mr Besayev, who controls the Vedeno district with his brother Shirvani, last year openly challenged Gen Du-dayev's leadership, threatening to take matters into his own hands unless more funds were released to his local field

This is not the first time in the 16-month conflict that Gen Dudayev, a former Soviet air force general aged 52, has been reported dead. He has been the target of frequent assassination attempts.

Since Growny was recap-tured by the Russian force and his headquarters were stormed, Gen Dudayev has been constantly on the move in the south-east and west of Chechenia. The Russian pros-ecutor-general has issued a

warrant for his arrest. Nevertheless, Mr Yeltsin in his latest peace plan announced his intention to resume negotiations with Gen Dudayev, using intermediar-ies including the president of

Prodi vows to bring stability

John Hooper in Rome

HE winners of Italy's general election yester-day vowed to give their country something it has not had for half a century — a government which sees out term of office and en the county's voice is heard on the international stage.

Romano Prodi, who is likely to be the next prime minister, told Le Figaro: Taly is richer than Great Britain and ought to be ashamed of not taking up its esponsibilities."
Professor Prodi later cited

the Middle East peace process as an area in which his country's desire to become involved had been "thwarted by

instability".

The professor said the outcome should allow him to "form a government which will last five years". No ad-ministration has done so since the formation of the republic in 1946.

Prof Prodi stressed that sta-bility was essential if he was to take the lira back into the exchange rate mechanism of the European monetary sys-

to the left. The outgoing prime minister, Lamberto Dini has apparently been given his pick of jobs on offer. There was speculation that Antonio Di Pietro, the former star of Italy's anti-corruption campaign, could be offered the justice or interior port-folios and that Umberto Eco. the author and a noted supporter of the centre-left might be named arts minis-ter. Prof Prodi said there was nothing preventing him talk-ing to Mr Di Pietro, but thought it unlikely that Ita-

ly's best-known author would accept a job.
Meanwhile, Silvio Berlus coni, Prof Prodi's defeated opponent, was hinting there might be something suspi-cious about the election results. The centre-left won an outright majority of seats

the support of orthodox Communists to pass legislation. "We are very worried by certain numbers which are coming out," Mr Berlusconi said. "A series of alarm sig-nals are reaching us with regard to spoilt votes." Speculation continued about whether Mr Berlusconi might

The cumbersome constitutional machinery for dealing with changes of government means the centre-left will be unable to take overbefore the middle of next month. Noth-

After the inferno, cinema paradiso Julian Borger in Sarajevo reports on the Rven though entrance was with them village customs

odyssey of a group of film lovers bearing the movies Bosnians missed in the war

T WOULD make a good subject for a low-budget art film: a group of young Europeans rattle across Bosnia's post-war landscape in a battered van taking a small film festival from one shrapnel-scarred cinema to another. On their way they meet a

drunken projectionist, an obstinate pigeon, ex-hausted war veterans and a flamboyant general. But at the end of their three-week odyssey they discover a na-tive love for the cinema that has survived dimin-ished but undefeated.

Nick Baker-Monteys, a German-based British film-maker, had the idea. He collected a diverse bunch of film lovers, including Benjamin Filipovic, one of Bosnia's leading pre-war direc-tors, a German actress and a Dutch film technician.

With funding from Chan-nel 4 and Germany's Goethe Institute, they set off late in March in a Volkswagen van with prints of Four Weddings And A Fu-neral, Speed, Orlando and a mixed bag of other critically acclaimed films from

the past four years.
These were the films that were showing when Bosnia was at war." Mr Baker-Monteys said. "The

The first cinema they came to in Bihac had been closed for four years. Day light flooded in through shell holes in the hall; which had become home to a pigeon. The projectors were on the point of col

lapse, as was the projec-tionist, an old man known locally as Doubles for his constant tippling.

The first few days were spent coaxing the pigeon out of the rafters, covering the shell holes and finding someone else to run the projectors. They had hardly got the cinema running

when a freak blizzard cut off the electricity for the last two days of their stay. Not even the region's army commander, General Atef Dudakovic (favourite film: Wuthering Heights), could get the lights back on. Instead he took advantage of the break to persuade Mr Filipovic to make a film about his unit's wartime exploits focusing on a daring action in 1994, in which he fooled the Serbs into thinking a mutiny was brewing in the Bosnian army. According to the general, the operation was in-spired by the film thriller, The Eagle Has Landed.

On the rest of the tour, in Zenica, Tuzla and Sarajevo idea was to get the cinemas the cinemas were in better open and the lights on." shape: but there was a more

Even though entrance was free, it proved hard to persuade Bosnia's war veter-ans and their families to leave home to spend an eve-

The war has left many soldiers too nervous and restless to sit still in a darkened hall for hours on end. Mr Filipovic also found is showing signs of returning. As the festival draws to peers had left. "They took with them in their luggage about 100 filmgoers has

television but virtually killed the cinema. While Bosnian cities were being signs that the local cinema shelled, their inhabitants was coming back to life. cowered at home. A huge industry in pirated video films grew up, which will

has become a city of rural | bave a tangible result."

and priorities.
"It is a different city," said Mr Filipovic, who reconsidering a decision to

return home.

But for all the gloom the festival organisers are convinced that Bosnia's prewar passion for the cinema the culture of going to the emerged, including a group of film students that main-The war, Mr Flipovic argued, boosted videos and four years without facilities or equipment. Even in Bihac, there were

"The day we left, they were putting up posters for another film," Mr Bakerbe hard to regulate.

Most important, Sarajevo the problems, it did at least

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now leave politics. bound left at the same time as the lira in September 1992. The current account is in since declared bankruptry and been ordered to disband.
Nerve gas producing chemicals killed 12 and made more than 5.500 others III in the subway attack Mr. Asahara allegedly the black, as is the trade bal-Yesterday: Rome was alive with speculation about who ing can happen until parliamasterminded last March. - AF Tokes. could form part of the first | ment is convened on May 9.

The Guardian

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At last, a streak of sanity

But nothing can excuse the great beef bungle

THE DISGRACEFUL mishandling of anxiety on Brussels and the council of the beef crisis profoundly underlines ministers. It allowed itself to redefine the Conservative Party's inability to govern in the national interest. Faced with the original disturbing medical advice about the effects of BSE on humans, the Government took prompt but inadequate action on March 20. There were many reasons for that, among them over-reliance on imprecise expert advice, reluctance to appreciate the extent of the problem, unwillingness to offend vested interests and a failure to draw up a comprehensive strategy. But at the end of the day the Government's action was unconvincing. The result was the collapse of confidence in the domestic beef market and a rapid panic about eating British beef, both here and abroad (and not merely in Europe), from which we have not yet emerged.

It is easy to be wise after the event about the Government's errors in those first crucial days. Even if one accepts that it did the best it could the first time round, the fact remains that the solutions to the difficulties which quickly followed lay in the Government's own hands. First, the Government should have promptly reconsidered the actions it took on March 20, whereas in the event it did too little too late. Second, it should have acted far more urgently to secure European Union support for its strategy, pre-empting the possibility that Europe would become an impedi-

issues. It began blaming others for the problem. It turned against Labour, against the press and, above all, against Europe. It took its eye off the real issue. Instead of thinking about meat industry standards and how to improve and Brussels last night, it only highlights enforce them, it increasingly focused its the fact that much that went before it

the crisis as a piece of European obstruction, and (as John Major repeated yesterday) as Labour's fault. By Easter the Government had lost control of a crisis for which it — not the press, not Labour, and not Europe — was fundamentally responsible.

We are still living with the conse-quences of that loss of control, as the political absurdities of the past few days have so powerfully illustrated. Because the Government so condescendingly dismissed anxieties about BSE for so long, it should not be sur-prised that public anxiety cannot be conveniently crammed back in the container from which it exploded. Because the Conservative Party adopted such abusive attitudes towards the EU over so many years, it is hardly a surprise that the EU is not busting a gut to help Britain in an hour of genuine need. And because the Tories have so completely failed to get a grip on their own party over the European issue, they should not be astonished when the Europhobes cash in on the latest pretext, as Iain Duncan Smith did in the Commons yesterday and Sir James Goldsmith has

been doing all week. The recent comments of some Conservatives beggar description. This is supposedly the party of free trade. But the Tory MPs who have been queueing up to call for retaliatory senctions against Europe this week give the lie to that Instead, the Government quickly showed the tell-tale signs of its own inadequacy. It focused on the state of has been put to the test and has proved itself compulsively incapable of pursuing the best interests of British consumers and producers. If a little sanity resurfaced in Douglas Hogg's talks in



The despair of care

INDA Grant has experienced a tragedy I witness each day of my working life (Mother we hardly know you, April 22). I help to care for 12 elderly, mentally confused people in a local-authority home. We strive to maintain the dignity and privacy of such people throughout a bizarre and debilitating illness, whilst trying to support family members who are often wracked bers who are often wracked with guilt because "putting them in a home" has become

an emotional last straw.

At our home we have a team of 10 plus four night care staff who, by a system of shifts, provide 24-hour care seven days a week. I cannot imagine how any family could cope with the sort of difficulties that arise daily, in an

ordinary family setting, emo-tionally or physically.

My belief is that none of those I care for would, should they have glimpsed their future, want their children or grandchildren to perform such tasks as are routine to those who care for them. Lynne McCarthy. Kirkstall, Graig Road, Gwent NP1 5FS.

AT WHAT point is some-body no longer able to fairs, make decisions about their treatment or even decide where they are going to live? Last year the Law Commission came up with constructive proposals on deci-sion-making and mental incapacity which could have provided solutions. Power of attorney has been available for some time but the opportunity for a person in the early stages of dementia to ap-

The wild Wilding

point a healthcare proxy to make decisions about future derly relatives and neigh-bours with underpinning a much wider network of com-In my childhood, it was my mother and women like her who cooked for pensioners' luncheon clubs, made home visits to the elderly and infirm, sewed the costumes for the drawn grown's concert. Alzheimer's Disease Society and many carers would

hospitals,
Where are their heiresses
to public service? In my case,
200 miles away and preoccupled with a job. Women must
have the right to work, and to
properly paid work. But we
also need to consider the vacum which will be left when
all the Mrs Grants are gone
and our society discovers just

and our society discovers just how much work non-working

women undertook on our

As dementia cannot be cured and causes such misery to the individual and

sadness and guilt to their fam-illes, isn't it time that we amended the law to allow eu-

flicted who have indicated

while they were still in full command of their faculties, that in such circumstances they would want a dignified and peaceful ending?

Now in our late sixties, it is

what we would want. Betty & Colin Mawby.

behalf.

Pam Beddard. 31 Clyde Road.

Totterdown, Bristol BS4 3DH,

relcome.
The Government has put these proposals on ice. Mean-while, there are 650,000 people in the UK living with dementia and their carers are left to make choices about care in increasingly circumstance Clive Evers.

Director of Information, Alzheimer's Disease Society. Gordon House, London SWIP 1PH.

AMILY relationships are immensely variable and it is as unwise to assume that all old people who become ill want to remain in their own homes as it is to assume that all daughters, or sons for that matter, are willing to make the huge sacrifices which caring often involves. We need a partnership between families and the state so that we can continue to build on the goodwill of families while protect-ing them from exploitation.

Above all, we must ensure that families are properly in-formed about what taking on caring responsibilities may mean and that, if they choose, to do so, the rest of society contribution. Jill Pitkeathley.

Chief Executive, Carers National Association. Ruth Pitter House, 20/25 Glasshouse Yard, London EC1A 4JS.

INDA Grant's mother eration — the stay-at-home mums who combined raising children and caring for el- Wirrall L60 4SF.

Why union activists can't just dismiss their rank-and-file

union policies (One member, one vote and no clout, April 22). I also resent his sugges-tion that ordinary trade unionists are too gullible and the drama group's concert parties, started "talking newspapers" for the himd, staffed the charity shops and dispensed the tes, cakes and sympathy from WRVS refreshment stands at local "propagands of the employers": this from a former employee of Robert Maxwell.

The clinching argument for

opponents of universal suf-frage was precisely that the masses could not be trusted with the vote since, lacking access to the rational and informed debate of the sentleman's club, they would be exposed to the demagogy of the Chartists, socialists and other underirables.

undesirables.

Why is he so keen to disenfranchise the millions of union members who will prob-ably never attend a union conably never attend a union con-ference and rarely, if ever, at-tend union meetings? How else to empower those mem-bers, especially women and "atypical" employees, with ir-regular working hours, short-term contracts, and domestic child-care responsibilities?

Michael Allen. 122 Drayton Park Road, London N5 1LX

should be aware that our | London W6 9DA.

I AM surprised that such an incorrigible radical as Paul Foot seeks to deny rank-and-file trade-union members the chance to help determine NUT debate about whether we about here a tolar select on the part of th NUT debate about whether we should have a joint salary sub-mission with teacher associations representing over 90 per cent of the profession — a joint submission which the ultra-left tried to scupper. DeCommittee

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(a. 1941)

John Biffe

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ultra-left fried to scupper. De-spite that, the membership voted by over 98 per cent to support the executive. He argues that "decisions should be taken by trade unionists meeting and debating as trade unionists" but ig-nores the fact that many of our branches are finding meeting after meeting inquorate. Others have reduced their quorum to less than 1 per cent of their membership.

Malcolm Horne. NUT National President 1988-89 43 Orchard Grove, Chalfont St Peter,

WHEN only union activists have a hold, then the union will take conference decisions which are out of step with the majority. Does Paul Foot really believe that those NUT delegates promulgating the SWP line at its recent conference represented the teachers on whose behalf they spoke? Paul Richards.

Another way to disarm Hizbullah

non's forthcoming parliamentary elections (Syrian leader raises price of cease-fire. April 23). Israel is now prepared to reach another version of the local state of sion of the 1993 understanding with Hizbullah but this time levating it to a written agreement, thus granting Hizbullah near-state status. If this was not Israel's initial objective, we must recognise that Opera-

tion Grapes of Wrath was a tragic flop.

According to the logic governing the present diplomatic process, Syria has also to be a signatory to the agreement along with Hizbullah, at the insistence of Israel. The reason given is that Syria is a reason given is that Syria is a major power in the area, controls decisions in Lebanon, and is the real force, along with Iran, behind Rizbullah. If Oxford OX2 6EP.

IF Israel's prime minister, | Israel's claim that Syria uses Shimon Peres, embarked on the Hizbullah card to fine-tune Operation Grapes of Wrath in order to promote his toughguy image during an election year in Israel, he has also contributed to the election campaign of Hizbullah in Leba and Hizbullah that he and Hizbullah that he with the succession of Lebanon, is an indication to both Syria and Hizbullah that he with the succession of Lebanon, is an indication to both Syria.

seems to be to save prime min-ister Peres from the mess be has put himself into and find a face-saving formula before the Israeli elections. What should be the priority is to save the real victim, Lebanon, from the brutal clumsiness of its southern neighbour and to find a long-term solution which would restore its authority over its occupied territory. Hizbullah would then be disarmed and remain as a political cal party in Lebanon's parliament

Nadim Shehadi.

A Country Diary

TAMAR VALLEY: Mild wet | They come from breeders all atlantic weather is re-estab-Atlantic weather is re-estab-lished. Bluebell leaves crowd around the pale primroses and starry calandines which have dominated hedgebanks and, on the occasional dry day, cloud shadows run across brightening green grass and darkened, warming earth of ploughed fields. Beside Cargreen, within view of sough beneath foaming white clouds in vivid blue sky. Here are trumpet, double, cup and jongail types with varying colours and forms: white pet-als around an intense pink cup (Penkivel); double flamboyant Spaniards Inn. Gin and Lime with reverse lemon petals and whitish trumpet and flame-centred Boslowick with flattened, split corona. in another section are all white daffodils including a bank. Clumps of dainty of St Dilpe with prolific white flowers and creamy buds. Almost one thousand varieties of daffodils are grown in this small field in blocks and

rows, all named or numbered

hundred have been named by Dan du Plessis and his family and these are grouped in a splendid bed beside his house. Now retired from daffodil growing and supplying bulbs worldwide, Dan still maintains and extends his collection and, this year, a fragrant jonquil type with the river, an amazing array of yellow petals and orange and brilliant daffodils toss and green centre will take his green centre will take his name. Today he selects and picks near-perfect blooms for entry into the Daffedil Soci-ety's annual show. He knows the form and face of every variety and awaits with anticipation the emergence of new flowers which take about five years from seed. Alongside his exotic collection remnants of daffodil stands, once widely cultiwith pheasant-eye centre and sturdy Croesus are at their best but Scilly Whites, Firsts and Sir Watkins are fading in the warmer weather.

VIRGINIA SPIERS

Other children have rights too A 13-year-old's hard lesson in life and social responsibility

GLAISDALE school teachers in Nottingham should not abandon their high ground. They have serious reasons for ground. They have serious reasons for refusing to teach Richard Wilding, the 13-year-old disruptive pupil. These have There are 12,000 a year. Only a small been dispassionately set out by their proportion return to mainstream spokesmen: 30 disruptive incidents by the boy over five months, threats to teachers as well as pupils, four earlier suspensions which still failed to improve his behaviour. Wilding's expulsion from the school had the support of the headteacher, the school governors, and the local education authority but was overturned by an independent appeal panel. Like their fellow professionals. Glaisdale's teachers have other reasons for their frustrations: larger classes, less support, less money to pay for extra staffing costs disruptive children need. So why waste the widespread public support for their cause by calling a strike on Friday and penalising all 600 children at the school?

There is another Richard Wilding story as our reporter, Martin Wainwright, fairly set out yesterday. Two local shopkeepers spoke up in his support including a newsagent, who employed him as a paperboy: "a keen lad...up before others... trustworthy...I think anybody who tween his school, his home and a local knew what they were doing could control him if they wanted." Then there's Richard's solicitor: like Richard's ard with an important lesson: social mother, ready to insist on the boy's rights come tied to social responsibilrights but, as it happens, not too ready | ities. If Richard wants to stay at Glaisto emphasise the boy's (and the dale, which he claims to, then he had parents') responsibilities.

Education reformers are rightly concerned by the threefold increase in schooling. The lucky ones are admitted to PRUs (pupil referral units), but home tutoring takes nine months to organise and then only amounts to one hour a day. But disruptive children are not the only ones with rights: the undisruptive have their rights too. Children who want to learn have a right to have their classes undisrupted. What is missing in the current row is any indication from Richard's mother that her son had done anything wrong. There is an eagerness to cite the Children Act and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, but not even a hint that the complaints from a succession of teachers have any substance. Mrs Wilding complains that her son is now being held in "almost solitary confinement": taught separately from other pupils, given separate break-times, even escorted to the lavatory. This is hardly surprising given the disruption which her son has caused. Under last night's agreement his education will now be spread be-PRU. It is not a good way of educating anyone but it just might provide Rich-

Let them carry on busking

An old tradition must continue — up to certain standards

THE BUSKERS in the London under- | Out goes the Four Seasons in any form, ground lost a legal battle yesterday but preferably with a £5 on-the-spot fine. may have won a victory. One of them failed to have his conviction overturned of only one song is banned. So is anyone for "soliciting for reward" at Piccadilly | playing to an accompaniment tape. The underground station. He claimed no music should be interesting enough to one was actually asked for money: lighten our step. Above all, it should be people were welcome to walk straight by. But learned argument prevailed: busking was deemed to be similar to soliciting on a street corner even if shifted. In Mayhew's London, it conthere is no explicit invitation.

More hopefully London Transport now says that the authority is reviewing the bylaws to see whether a proper licensing scheme can be drawn up. This is a cheerful new tune but it could lead to discord. As a spokeswomen explained, "some buskers play very well and others do not." Who will license the licensers' taste? It is easier to say what | which tolerates busking so long as the is not permitted than what is allowed. performers only derive a non-existent Out goes the violinist who repeats the same 16 bars from the Four Seasons. always be its own reward.

played well.

better improve his behaviour.

Busking has always been part of ur-ban life, though the location has sisted of "going into public houses and playing and singing and dancing." Strolling performers have acted in marketplaces from Italy to China — and on Victorian beaches too. The tube buskers are there largely because they have been driven underground: the same happened to the Parisian "metro musicians". Nor should we copy Singapore.

or "psychic" income. Music need not

DICHARD Wilding is the subject of a "statement of special educational needs".

the result of prolonged inappropriate and unaccept-able school behaviour. Only a modification to his behaviour patterns will lead to accep-tance by his teachers and peers. Such modification will be helped by suitable rewards for positive changes. You do him no favours, therefore, by publishing a striking front-page photograph (April 23): the publicity will only serve to show him that his violence is productive. Dennis Ruston.

7 High Street, Horbling, Lincs NG34 0PE.

WHAT most teachers need is your unequivocal support in questioning the utter waste of resources, time and money on cases like this. What we don't need is splashy pictures of people who manipulate an already stretched system to its limits while blaming the system rather than themselves for the havoc they cause. If mainstream education, which surely must aim to do the best for as many aim to do the best for as many pupils as possible, is underfunded, and the teachers stressed out and exhausted this is why. Wouldn't recognition of some sense of personal responsibility from child and parents alike be a start? K A Nivison. 40 Kings Avenue.

"HIS "disruptive" schoolboy lives "among the rows of red-brick and concrete-clad semis of the Bilsborough estate". Had he lived in a posh Surrey suburb and attended a private school, would he not now, cap awry and socks at helf mast, be a hero of books, radio and television scripts entitled Just Richard?

Woodford Green,

Essex IG8 0JA.

RE Harris.

294 Telegraph Road, Heswall, Wirral L60 7SQ.



Cold porridge and hot news

SURELY the 1990 riots in through publicity. The media hate the idea that they are responsible for anything at all. But if the governor of the cells (Leader, April 22)? The day before the roof went the the visions there the day the form the the visions there the day to the cells (Leader, April 22)?

The day before the roof went up in Strangeways the prisoners there had been watching the news of the violence in the poll-tax riots of Trafalgar Square.

Inmates were even waving a No Poll Tax Here banner the next day. By the end of that week almost every prison in England had gone up; a move which could only have grown the televisions there the day before the Trafalgar Square the whole system would have stayed intact. Michael Howard is right for a change. They should knock off the whole of immediately.

Tom Davies.

10 Westbourne Road, Penarth, South Glamorgan CF64 3HE.

Browned off on child benefit

Labour has in using its membership to endorse policy rather than formulate it. Many party members are committed supporters of life-long learning — but we wait in vain for invitations to comment. Defensive reaction to Tory failures, whether grant-maintained schools, nursery vouchers or the return of the eleven-plus, is allowing the enemy to choose the battlefield.

Terry Hamilton. 23 Cavendish Crescent South The Park, Nottingham NG7 1FD

HAT have Peter Lilley and Gordon Brown in www.and. Gordon Brown in appear. We regret we cannot common? They both manifest acknowledge those not used.

GORDON Brown's article dication of societal responsibility towards children. Chilbility towards children. Chil-dren are tolerated in public under sufferance, and have no inherent right to an ade-quate standard of living. Yet,

hypocritically, Lilley and Brown expect children to grow up to demonstrate a responsible attitude towards society. The onus of care in respect of children is not solely the province of parents. M J Lebacs. 31 Moorfields,

Willaston, Cheshire CW5 8QY.

Please include a full postal address and a telephone number. We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to

The Guardian Wednesday April 24 1996

Joanna Coles

AM sorry to see the social exodus of some of Britain's most exemplary young men to Cape Town has been less than smooth. First, Mark Thatcher applied for mem-bership of the Royal Cape golf club and received a wounding rebuff. Then, just as he had finished painting the spare bedroom in time for his mother's visit 10 days ago, the South African authorities announced they were having second thoughts about renewing his visa. And now my friend Charlie (that's Earl Spencer to you), who has just bought an equally nice thatched home in the gentle suburb of Constantia, is dogged by unpleasant rumours that he has been exhaustively tout-ing the idea of writing a ing the idea of writing a weekly political column around Cape Town—to no avail and much local laughter. Clearly this cannot be true. Charles's journalistic talents are as legendary as his one-liners. (Urged by his father to find a bride who would stick by him through thick and thin, he announced at one birthday party: "Well, those of you who know Victoria know that she's thick, and she's certainly thin!") A column could not contain his charms. No — an entire book should be his for the

EANWHILE my friend Roy Hatters-ley last night used the James Cameron Memorial Lecture to launch a thrilling attack on the trivi-ality and secrecy of much political reporting in the lobbles at Westminster. Quite right, too. There is too much non-attributable briefing. A pity then that Hattersley's 21-page text was issued with the name of its author omitted. The first off-the-record public speech?

ictivists can't just

Carper Services

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1 730% and-file

ND now, as promised, another extract from Terry Major-Ball's myopic diaries. We resume his observations down under, while he enjoys "vis-iting celebrity status" at the Melbourne Flower events of an exciting week
has been to meet again a
young lady, as I still call
her, whom I haven't met for
more than 40 years. She is East Melbourne, and like my wife, she is also called Shirley, "he writes, sucking his pen tip thoughtfully. "I only took her out once to ride the dodgens near my home in South London. In a ling pencil I had just been given for my 21st birthday. Polynantly, I still have the Parker 51 pen that went with it." Poignant indeed. Tomorrow: Terry is disap-pointed to find that his long interview with the Herald Sun appears as a 200-word photo caption.

VER desperate in its attempts to compete with the Daily Mail, the Daily Express has launched a new "Campaign to Stop the Euro Rot Now!". Kicking off with a page-long leader, it roars that: "A few cranks and visionaries may have believed in a United States of Europe, mainly be-cause they failed to under-stand that their model the USA — was built on foundations which do not exist on this side of the Atlantic, including common language, law, culture and a tradition of personal free dom. But these eccentrics were of no importance because they represented no one but themselves." Eccentrics? No importance? But who was it, in Zurich, September 1946, who mur-mured that "We must build a kind of United States of Europe"? None other than Winston Churchill—and one of the Express's great heroes.

WHANKS to Police Magazine for drawing my attention to the following: during a night shift at Penrith, Inspector John Sweeten and Sgt Den-nis Crisp hurried out of the office to attend a local disonice to anenu a total dis-turbance. A passer-by called out to ask them where the chip shop was. "Follow us, it's on the right," shouted Dennis. Off they sped, blue lights flashing, sailing through the speed limits through the speed limits and red lights for several miles until they stopped at the scene of the disturbance. As the two officers got out of their car, they heard a little voice: "Oi, so where's the chippie then?"



Time to revisit the child in all of us

Commentary

Francine Stock

TS had luck on Richard Wilding. As his case for being included at Glaisdale Comprehensive rakes up a history of violent and abusive behaviour, the nation sighs over the winsome linedrawings of Christopher Robin Milne, lisping his prayers. In the past 48 hours this diptych of childhood has been on display—the devil and the angel. What we believe we have creeted by our own indifference and negligence, and what we believe have lost. The mourning of lost innocence is a recurring theme in cence is a recurring theme in contemporary soul-searching.
After Bulger, after Cleveland and the Orkneys and the violent deaths of battered babies

Milne illustrate how clearly childhood is a concept that appeals to grown-ups. The child of the poems and stories, this man spant seven decades protesting, was not him but a cynical creation designed to tickle adult antennae sensitive to a blend of sentiment and ridicule. The child was endearing but also egotistical (the rushed prayers of "Vespers"), doggedly industrious but camically, pathetically incapable (the unsuccessful "Engineer"). Wrong, wrong, wrong, insisted Milne the younger in his autobiography. Children of five are perfectly capable of understanding Children of five are perfectly capable of understanding about God; they are probably better equipped for spirituality than at any other time. It, as a child, he had made something from Meccano, or a brake for an engine, it would (and this he puts in capitals) have worked.

Far from being the Truth about a Child, as AA Milne wrote in his Preface to

down and a powerful coalition of children seem to enjoy today of violence and poverty. But the obtinaries of Christopher gnettes but the rollicking tales Milne illustrate how clearly of adult folly (the King's Breakfast or James James Morrison's wayward mother). see in the rear-view mirror. When you're there it seems like life lived at knee-level. So much for the paragon.
What of the grotesque? Richard Wilding lays reluctant claim to the title of worst pupil in Britain. Teachers would atrice rather than risk

His mother says their reac-tion is disgusting; given the right support, he can cope with mainstream schooling. Richard is posed for the pho-tographers beside a chess-board, Black Queen in hand — a dodgy image, given that skill with the Sicilian Defence has hardly been a guarantee of moral worth. What fasci-nates here is the angel/devil paradox. His behaviour seems he more alarming because be

Yet he is also a person, no better or worse for being young. Children are not a race

for them. Children must have a say. They are influenced by trends from the adult world, they should be allowed to influence in return and to understand that there will be sanctions when they behave

in an anti-social way.

To an extent, legislation in western countries has begun to move in this direction. In the US Hillary Rodham Clin-ton has campaigned to give children greater rights in court, Norway has an Om-budsman for Children, Aus-tralia and New Zealand have separate government depart-ments and in this country the Children Act and Lord Mackay's recent discussion of con-sultation with children in divorce cases have shifted the legal boundaries. And of course there's a UN conven-tion on the rights of the child,

Bhas to be made first not in the statute books but in our sititudes towards childhood. Note also this week the num-ber of column inches and ago-nised correspondence relat-ing to the use of dummies. Across the land, parents feel that clutch-at-the-throat of guilt and hourse mixed Ham that clutch-at-the-throat of guilt and horror mixed. Have they compromised their child's chances in latar life by sticking a piece of plastic be-tween its gums? Is it always within an adult's power to dictate how their child might turn out? Is childhood an exam for adults to page? exam for adults to pass?
At the same time, alongside

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS 9 The Queen of

heard, while their abusers were the very people put there as their guardians. This is what is too painful for us to contemplate, the prospect of adults exploiting those with no power to resist.

Now comes the film Kids a close-up chronicle of 13year-olds skateboarding
the Manhattan hell bent through Manhattan, hell bent on drugs and sex with vir-gins. The director, 53-year-old gins. The director, 53-year-old Larry Clark, says in an interview: "Kids are having sex, smoking pot, drinking beer and acting craxy now, just like they always have." Parents, he continues, simply choose to forget, dropping a spurious veil of innocence aeross their own childhood recollection. Yet Clark's own son, aged 12, was reportedly somewhat taken aback when he saw the film.

Without doubt, a handful of

Without doubt, a handful of children must conform to the children must conform to the Kids casting, as must junior gin addicts have done in Hogarth's London. But not the majority. Mr Clark knows that the point of his film will be the shock it engenders in an adult audience. Tarnished innocence is big bucks.

Statistics, may be used to Statistics may be used to reinforce the idea of innocence exoded. A quarter of young people may have tried drugs by 16 — but if they have, it reflects increased use

by adults. The charity Child-Line said yesterday that the overwhelming worry of young people was still pass-ing exams, of failing to live up to adult expectations. What is disturbing about young people's behaviour is not that and the Orkneys and the violent deaths of battered babies
came a flood of national selfdisgust. Childhood was under
phy — a demonstration of
threat, shrinking from the
pressures of family break
and the Orkneys and the viowrote in his Preface to
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The left is also a person, no
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> attack on the rule of law as Hong Kong understands it. The constitutionality of the

Council and the Law Society.

Neither the Joint Declaration nor the Basic Law provides

for such a body to be formed. The legality of every act ema-nating from the body will be

questionable, and may indeed be challenged in court. That would put the Hong Kong ju-diciary on the line too. All in

all, it could be a nightmare

end of British rule and a hor-rendous start for Chins.

Britain do? John Major pro-vided the answer when he visited Hong Kong in early March. He rightly said that the British Government's pri-

ority is to maintain the rule

of law and to ensure that Hong Kong commands the confidence of the local and

international communities: Furthermore, he said that "if there were any suggestion of a breach of the Joint Decla-

The Government must speak

out against the setting-up of the provisional legislature. It

most not skirt around the issue of legality by couching

it in soft language. So far, it has been reluctant to use the world "breach" of the Joint

Declaration, and instead says

Finally, the Government must tell Parliament what legal channels may be avail-able. It has been mooted that

the international Court of Justice is one possible option.

It will require China's agree-

ment to be bound by its

ment to be bound by his jurisdiction.

Cynics will say that China will not want the Hong Kong issue internationalised, and that it will never submit to

the world court's jurisdiction.

This line of think is essen-

tially a self-debilitating one. and one that is very conve-niant to China. If people con-

tinue to believe that China is

unmoved by international opinion, then no one chal-

lenges China. To insist that it is bloody-minded and never changes its mind is surely an insult to China.

it is "inconsistent".

What, realistically, can

cess, the Princess pointed at a monitor, offering tips to her fellow spectators: "This is where the aorta is... is that where the problem is." Given her obvious mastery of the systole and diastole, it would be a loss for the NHS if the Princess's vocation were

gets her itchy fingers on an

route into surgery might be to train as a registered nurse. Is Diana eligible? A spokesman for the Royal College of Nursing confirms that although five GCSEs are normally required, it is possible for differently-educated applicants, such as Diana, to be admitted after passing an ap-titude test. If she turns out to be literate and numerate, she could, within three years, emerge as a registered nurse, and after some experience in the wards; and a six-month course, qualify as a cardiac

Inevitably, the latter course ration, we would have a duty to pursue every legal and other avenue available to us". will involve a certain amount of reading, which may present problems, given Diana's public, Diana has managed, stated aversion to formal until now, to pass off the most study. Emerging from Sir Magdi's operating theatrs, the Princess confided: "You gather information much more from the visual contact | round hospitals and watching rather than reading books." Does a nurse's training in-

> on a medical career, why is she so keen to "gather information" about major surgery? Many children will law of medicine, but to none understand her passion for other." Perhaps Dlana's medi-

Hearts and



Catherine Bennett

N HER latest trip to the operating theatre, Princess Diana im-pressed a throng of spectators pressed a throng of spectators with the depth of her anatomical expertise. A television journalist who was also enjoying a jaunt to Harefield Hospital — which seems likely to become the Alton Towers of the medical world — reports that the Princess showed "an incredible knowledge" of the heart. As the camera pointed at the Princess, the Princess pointed at a monitor, offering tips to her

than a hobby. Could a career as a heart surgeon mark the end of her struggle to find a fulfilling role outside the royal family? Alas, she seems to have discovered her callprovisional body is seriously questioned by many people, including the Hong Kong Bar ing too late in life. Even if the Princess manages to achieve high grade A levels chemistry, she will have to tion with the afflicted? By endure at least five years suggesting that she, too, is a working her way through medical school before she

> An alternative and quicker surgeon's assistant.

nurses, but by the age of six or so, most have discarded their little white outfits, and lost all the bandages and baby-stethoscopes in the Fisher Price doctor's set. Perhaps she feels that ambulance chasing is a royal duty? After all, for the upper classes, gawping at the misfortunes of the sick and needy is a traditional source of

is a traditional source of amusement. In the last century, the quality were still gathering to watch amputations at the Old Operating Theatre, at St Thomas's, which is now a museum. What was the appeal? "It was the thrill of seeing something strange, novel and bizarre, says the curator, Marietta Ryan, "the thrill of being allowed somewhere most people were not allowed in." allowed somewhere most people were not allowed in."
This week the Princess con-firmed that she enjoys this very thrill, "literally seeing life on a knife edge" as she tastefully put it. This, pre-sumably, is a response shared by fans of the Great Ormond Street television programme,

which regularly presents the sufferings of real-life children and their parents as a form of mass entertainment. But the Princess goes fur-ther. "It motivates me — it brings purpose and meaning to my life," she said, as if this constituted some form of jus-tification: trust me, I'm a princess. But how does watching a mastectomy, or a heart operation, bring pur-

pose and meaning to life? By giving her the opportunity to suggesting that she, too, is a victim, no less than the help-NLY those who share the Princess's fathom-less fascination with the sick could comprehend her motives; one suspects that the only people who might sympathise are those other loiterers around casualty wards and operating theatres: the bogus doctors

and sidle into hospitals where they occasionally suc-ceed in conducting impromptu examinations, even operations. These obsessives must envy Dians. As a prin-cess, she need not resort to deception to dress up in a surgical mask and gaze into the body cavities of comatose strangers.
With the collusion of her

eccentric behaviour as if it were really quite normal conlooking princess. But hanging surgical operations for kicks is something different. If Divolve reading books? "Loads of it," confirms the Royal College of Nursing, "absolutely loads of it." is something dimerent. If Diana cannot stop, someone should help her to do so. The Hippocratic Cath states: "I will impart a knowledge of If the Princess is not intent the Art to my own sons, and on a medical career, why is those of my teachers, and to disciples bound by a stipula-tion and oath according to the playing at doctors and cal chums should re-read it?

long Kong SOS

Christine Loh warns that unless the Government gets tough with China now, the handover of the colony next year will end in tears

the timing is un-helpful. Those same people will probably do everything to prevent another parliamen-tary debate, particularly one next election, in order to prevent the British public getting wind of a disaster of gigantic proportions about to blow up in British's last colony as it moves towards Chinese rule on July 1, 1997. The Foreign Office is working hard to put across the Government line that Britain

is making slow progress on many fronts, despite funda-mental disagreements over

HE House of Lords debates Hong Kong Legislative Council, and tonight. No doubt some will say that the timing is un-

Those who are keen to make things look less desperate will point to last week-end's two-hour meeting at The Hague between the Forport for the pretender body before being allowed to serve

beyond 1997. After the Rifkind-Qian meeting, a Chinese spokes-man urged Britain "to face. China's declared intention to reality" over the dismantling

of the council. The spokes and the Basic Law, China's man also said it was "a closed question" as far as China was 1997 Hong Kong. China has

Rifkind's response showed how out of touch he is to Hong Kong's feelings. He suggested that its people would now feel "great pleasure and reassur-ance". Hong Kong may feel ever so very alignty reassured; it certainly feels no "great pleasure". China's very public inten-tion to establish a parallel legislature before 1997, and

for it to function for perhaps a year before fresh elections, is effectively a declaration of intent to torpedo the core prom-ises made between Britain and China in the 1994 Sino-British Joint Declaration. This requires the legislature to be constituted by election, and calls for Hong Kong to enjoy a "high degree of auton-omy" from the central gov-

ernment in Beijing.
Why does China want such
bloodletting? Its answer is that the extremely modest electoral reforms which Britain put in place in 1994 con-travene the Joint Declaration

not been willing to engage in legal argument about those

The truth is that China wants to pick and choose from the current elected councillors. It is frightened of the new and more vigorous political life that is developing in Hong Kong, because Chinese leaders are unused to open dissent. They, like Hong Kong's past colonial masters. are more comfortable with politics without democracy, where things are arranged by the ruling elite behind closed

What is under threat in Hong Kong is the decolonisa-tion process itself, with poli-cles now shaped in a newly open and accountable environment. The throwing out of elected representatives, and their replacement by China's appointees, however it may be dressed up, is an act of violence against the people of

The issue of the pretender Christine Loh is a member of legislature is also a frontal Hong Kong's Legislative Council

SRAEL: THE BOMBS!

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Beware the new Ross Perot of their suitability for food consumption. The figures involved would have been breathfalking. We would have been breathfalking. We would have created a "boving popular support. John Biffen writes a letter of warming to the Prime Minister be incinerated irrespective of their suitability for food consumption. The figures involved would have been breathfalking. We would have created a "boving have created a "boving or publicly disparage Appendix" the pleasing of their suitability for food consumption. The figures involved would have been breathfalking. We would have been breathfalking. We would have been breathfalking. We would have been breathfalking. The province of their suitability for food consumption. The figures involved would have been breathfalking. We would have been breathfalking. The figures of the province of their suitability for food consumption. The figures involved would have been breathfalking. We would have been breathfalking. We would have been breathfalking. We would have been breathfalking. The province of their suitability for food consumption. The figures involved would have been breathfalking. We would have been breathfalking to not underesting the province of their suitability for food consumption. The figures involved would have been breathfalking to not underesting the province of their suitability for food consumption. The figures involved would have been breathfalking to not underesting the province of the province of their suitability for food consumption. The figures involved would have been breathfalking to not underesting the province of the province o

John Biffen writes a letter of warning to the Prime Minister

You have a thankless task. Europe is proving a dangerous and divisive topic for the Conservatives. You always feared this, and fully realised that government would make such divisions public, just as opposition would enable Tony Blair to render his own sceptics mute.

As we approach a general election, matters are get-ting worse. The Conservative Party is losing crucial newspaper support. The Daily Telegraph, under the powerful editorship of Charles Moore, has become the house magazine of Tory Eurosceptics. This week, the Daily Express is also offering a platform to your European critics. Most important is the decision of the Sun yesterday to cham-nion the Ruropean and ref-erendum policies of Sir-James Goldsmith, in a fullpage editorial. All these newspapers supported you at the last general election.

or our industry; it will be evident in our rural heart-land. British agriculture has been dealt a savage blow, more damaging in its uncertainty than most politicians realise. For some years now our excellent record in animal health has been stained by the prevalence of BSE. It was our national problem, but with orders prohibiting contam-inated animal feed there was a recent annual fall of 50 per cent in BSR infection. The national problem

producing results. That was the firm ground on which we should have stood. Of course, the possibility of a new strain of Creutz-feldt-Jakob's Disease, fatal of-course you are likely to have the support of the Financial Times, the clitist caused sharp public mease broadsheet that supported and panic. Nonetheless, these animals were than to presidential elections at the support of the Financial Times, the clitist caused sharp public mease broadsheet that supported and panic. Nonetheless, these animals were than to presidential elections are attankies task.

Yours sincerely, John discontent also exists in parts of Europe. The last US presidential elections are attankies task.

had evoked a national pol-icy, scientifically based and

Labour in 1992. It is not a fair exchange.

I hope your advisers are explaining to you just why the European situation has deteriorated so sharply in recent weeks. The cause will not be found in the City gests that the alleged health hazard could have been put into a more balsanced context. Indeed, we are now deafened with a chorus of public figures who proclaim the merits of beef sections. eef-eating. Alas, in the instant reaction to a health hazard, our

> that is speedy and not based upon political clout. We now know that the ban on British beef was wholly without scientific or veterinary evidence. It is lleged to have been a decision to restore consumer confidence, and was accompanied by demands that Britain should supplement her BSE policy by massive additional slaughtering,

on, whilst we try and end a politically motivated ban which harms farming and does not help consumers. John, the European Union isn't working. Moreover, if we have to break

Auschwitz", the televising of which would never have restored public confidence. And so the argument goes

protest. He wants to spear-head the growing public distillusion with conven-

mate or publicly disparage James Goldsmith. He has cash and charisma. He also has the candour to say that

Europe isn't working, and the daring to offer a wide referendum about our membership rather than merely a technical one on the single currency. His ar-guments about the environment and trade protection clash with Conservative or-thodoxy, but they will strike a chord with many who feel these issues are neglected by the politics of

I want a Tory victory at the next election. Having supported you as leader of the Conservative Party, I hope you can play a signal role in such a success. Nonetheless I do hope you will agree with me that the tragedy of the beef dispute has sustained growing public feeling that the European Union has lost its attraction. If you and your Cabinet colleagues cannot catch this mood, there is now a new, colourful politi-cal figure who will. You have a thankless task.

the law to force a fair deal then that is further evi-European partners and the Commission slapped on an import han which excluded British farmers from the continental market and world trade generally. You rightly denounce this and tomorrow it will be some the commission of the commission slapped on an import han which excluded bent rules. Today it is British farmers from the commission of the commission are now challenging it in the European Court. Well, let's hope you get justice only in the cosy vacuum of other issue. Meanwhile this Westminster. Sir James Goldsmith has now entered the British political stage. I predict he will not make an early exit. He thoroughly enjoys his new role. Shrewdly, he does not aspire to government but rather to orchestrate

Yours sincerely, John

French spoken freely

Franco-British relations through her work at the BBC both during and after the war. As Cecilia Reeves a modern language graduate of Newnham College, Cam-bridge, she joined the BBC's foreign department in 1933. later becoming assistant to eign Liaison Office. She was therefore ideally placed to take a leading role in the cre-ation of the BBC French

After the fall of France in 1940 the BBC was charged with expanding its infant French language broadcast-ing service to meet the needs of a new and tragic situation. (Some of the impetus came from General de Gaulle's broadcast of June 18, 1940.)

It fell to Cecilia to apply her wise and decisive council, not least to the recruitment of the brilliant and diversely tal-ented group who formed "Les Français Parlent aux

They were led by Michel Saint Denis — the theatrical producer and director who had been a liaison officer during the Battle of France and whom Cecilia persuaded to remain in England — to bead the BBC's new French team
— after Dunkirk.

Whilst St Denis headed the French team, the Guardian's former Warsaw correspondent, Darsie Gillie, became the editor of the Section Francaise as a whole, controlling

David Shipman

film historian. But those words do scant justice to the

enthusiasm and knowledge which infused his considerable body of work.

In 1970 he published the first, and arguably the best, of

many important works on the cinema — The Great Movie Stars, The Golden Years. This was soon followed by a vol-

fears (1972) and later came a

third volume on the younger

actors for whom David

These volumes earned him

justified reputation for live-

liness and accuracy and be

compounded this with a series

of other books including one

on Marion Brando (1974), a

collection of quotes on cinema

entitled Movie Talk and a somewhat less happy volume, The Good Film and Video

Guide which was less a labour

of love than those devoted to the great stars.
Most notable of these was

the recent biography of Judy Garland. This set the seal on

his reputation for elegant

When I spoke to him a few

days ago he was full of enthu-

siasm for his latest project — a biography of Fred Astaire.

Our last conversation ended

with a promise for him and his companion Fellx Brenner

That unfinished husiness is

even sadder to me than the

prospect of not reading his

David Shipman, film historian,

Astaire biography.

Brian Baxter

and a love of his subject.

AVID Shipman, who has died aged 63, may fairly be described as a

Gillie, | BBC hierarchy at Bush House and the intelligence and infor-mation services. Cecilia assistant but her contribution as mentor and producer was more important than that title suggests.

She was also one of those with Dan Sturge-Moore and Ian Black, who liaised with the Free French at Carlton Gardens over their contributions to the nightly fiveminute Free French — later Fighting French — broadcast One of the regular contribu-tors was de Gaulle's spokesman, Maurice Schumann, later France's foreign minis-ter and subsequently Presi-dent of the Senate.

role in the propaganda war and its part in sustaining morale and nurturing the forces of the Resistance have been amply recognised - par-ticularly in France - and Cecilia's part in it was far from insignificant. After the war she provided valuable assistance to La Documentation Française in establishing a wartime crucial contribution. It was right — and inevita-

ble — that her experience and precious contacts with the new leaders of France should lead to her appointment as the BBC's Paria representa-tive. She fed BBC Radio's current affairs and talks programmes with a stream of expert English-speaking French men and women from all walks of life. And, even after BBC Television assumed the main representational role in 1958, she continued as radio assistant to fulfil ber duties conscientiously, com-

William Everson

ble thirst for films and an irre

sistible urge to save them.

This meant not only amassing

one of the world's most exten-

sive private film collections

but also ensuring that his col-

cussed across Europe and

His annual National Film

Theatre seasons always included revelatory gems but hardly a month in the NFT's

year went past without a print

In 1950, he emigrated to New

York, taught at Greenwich

Social Research and co-

founded the Theodore Huff

Film Society — modelled on London's Film Society — and

named after an early cham-pion of silent films and biogra-

pher of Charlie Chaplin. His New School screenings contin-ued through four decades, as

did showings in the living room of his West Side apart-

ment that was crammed with more than 4,000 films. Stanley

at the New School in the 1950s.

and the drama critic Walter Kerr, the composer Steven Sondheim and the film histori-

ans Jay Leyda, Kevin Brown-low, and Leonard Maltin were

among his informal students. as were film-makers Peter

Bogdanovitch, John Boorman, and Bertrand Tavernier.

A chance to

see it again

ROM the days of his Yeovil childhood, Bill Everson, who has died aged 67, had an insatia-



Entente cordiale . . . Reeves in 1947, when she was BBC representative in Paris

manding respect and affec-

Channel. riend Darsie Gillie had be-come the highly regarded. Paris correspondent of the Guardian. Their friendship finally led to marriage in Paris and later in the country ment from the BBC in April 1967 they moved to Mirabeau in Provence to an ancient

many notable American uni

versities, and organised film

seasons for the Pacific Film

Archive, the Montreal Cine matheque and the Munich Film Museum. The retrospec-

tives at the Berlin Film Festi-

val, Italy's Pordenone silent film festival and the Telluride

film festival in Colorado,

invariably included titles

Everson wrote 16 books and dozens of articles on film his-

tory, including studies on lesser-known directors and

long-vanished studios. In the 1970s, he urged New York's Museum of Modern Art to rec-

ognise the historical and social value of B-movies. His

book The Western (1962), writ-

ten with George N Fenin, was a classic study and his 1978

history of the American silent

film was a standard history for two decades.

gois", after the legend-ary founder of the Cinema-

theque Française, but Bill never institutionalised his col-

lection. He shared Langois

ing films but argued that

many archives were too pos-sessive of their prints. Gradu-ally, film archivists have begun to see his logic.

commitment to publicly show

HE film critic Andrew

Sarris called Everson "the American Lan-

from the Everson collection.

after her ailing husband, and after his death in 1972 she took to giving English lessons in the district, where she was She was visited by many old friends and colleagues. She taught cook and penned a first class cookbook, much to

speech. To her aid came a Pol-ish friend whom she and Dar-sie (who loved Poland as much as he loved France) had unofficially adopted when he escaped from Poland in 1955 and whom they had seen through college and the start France. Stanislaw ("Stash") Prus-

house called Derrière L'Eg- lie had her first stroke, to be dor — proved a most faithful lise. There Cecilia looked followed later by others and generous friend, providfollowed later by others and generous friend, provid-which almost deprived her of ing Cecilia with nursing staff taking her on a stretcher by where she died peacefully in the loving care of Stash, his wife Alexandra and friends.

Cecilia Grace Hunt Reeves Gillie BBC executive, born August 18,

tions on topics about which I no doubt exuded ignorance, Bill asked: "Why do the English watch Neighbours?" Bill used to speak about flying home from film confer-ences where one side of the

plane was filled: with

semioticians and the other with historians and buffs. He had affection for each, and acknowledged the interests of his colleagues. For one memcured a gigantic poster of Tommy Lee Jones, one of her favourite actors. He brought back "Australian Crocodile" r for me from Swede after presenting a season of Scandinavian cinema. He gave the department wonder-ful photographs of himself on horseback in Monument Valley, looking for all the world like John Ford, in his wide-

like John Ford, in his wide-brimmed hat.

Bill proudly recounted a story of his geography master at Isleworth County School in the 1930s, saying: "Stop dreaming about the Holly-wood beaches, you'll never get there! Think about the rainfall in Brazil instead." At rainfall in Brazil instead." At 13, he got his first job by coming up with a pressbook slo-gan about Linda Darnell: "My kind of love gives a woman the strength of ten." And when he made it to Los Ange-les, his old teacher got the first postcard.

Despite his lengthy illness, Bill continued to teach until a week before his death. Those week before his death. Inose of us who are completing his British Cinema class and the course on Ernst Lubitsch and Preston Sturges, do so sharing with his students a sense of loss and grief. As Martin Scorsees said: "William K. Presson was a heating father. Everson was a benign father who watched over films with a tender, loving eye."

William K Everson, film historian born April 8, 1929; died April 14, 1996 José Aranguren

Philosopher of the people

OSE Aranguren, who has died aged 86, was a thinker beyond the limits of nationality. He had nationality. He had not a state of the limits of nationality. He had not a state of the limits of nationality. He was born in Avila, but, because of his grandparents origins, he considered himself half Galician. And, in 1982 the philosopher declared that he would most like to be known as "The greatest friend of Catalunya".

After Aranguren was dis-

missed from Madrid's chair of ethics and sociology in 1965, it was Barcelona that contrived was Barcelona that contrived to have him lecture there, sub rosa, at gatherings which finished joyously in the Barrio Gótico's bars. When one of his students was arrested for demonstrating in solidarity with striking Asturian miners. Aranguren was instrumental in securing his release.

and activities on his own conceptions of morals, religion and, above all, ethical integ-rity. A man without physical frontiers and their attendant prejudices, he became a think er whose vision knew no bounds. Yet his writing style and speech were natural, flu-ent and precise — accessible to non-professionals interested in philosophy. He knew there was more to

the world than the place where he was born, but he also knew he would return there in the end. His mother died when he was four, and he was entrusted to his Galician grandparents in San Sebastian: He was a model pupil at a Jesuit seminary in Chamartin, and studied law in Madrid. After graduation he became a student of Ortega y Gasset in the philosphy fac-ulty. When the Civil War broke out, he was torn between still Republican Madrid and a San Sebastian falling to Franco. He joined the nationalist army until a false diagnosis of TB invalided

"proud of never having killed anybody". This enforced rest allowed him to study and meditate on Saint John of the Cross and to read German philosophy. He began writing, demonstrating his admiration for Ortega and for Eugenio d'Ors, whose ideas on the contrasts between baroque and classic forms of art and writing and on a philosophy of aesthetics always appealed to

him out. He said he was

appointed to the Madrid chair in ethics and sociology. His freewheeling lectures were immensely popular. He told his students that "an intellectual should be the voice of those who have no voice." founded the Reforma Universitaria, he fell foul of the dreaded Information ministry for signing a manifesto against the brutal suppression of the Asturian miners strikes. With other like-

minded professors, he was dis-

Santa Barbara, then in the throes of the new counterculture, fascinating to a refugee from Franco. As late as 1993, he argued that drugs should be legalised. With the dictator's demise, he triumphantly returned to Spain and university teaching and was swarded several prizes. For Aranguren, democracy meant personal morals rather than political institutions, and

he withdrew support from the socialist prime minister Felipe Gonzalez for not having taken strong enough mea-sures against corruption. These ethical considerations were the logical outcome of his progression from Sain John of the Cross to existential attitudes in Catolicismos Y De Existencia (1952) through



Visionary . . . Aranguren

(1954) — on the relations between religion and ethics until the fully-treated theme of ethics emerges in his great two-part Eticz in 1958. This, a development of his mahire thought, links Plato, Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas, the French moralists and Spanish philos-opher Xavier Zubiri in a concept of "philosophical ethics", religious and secular, per-sonal and universal, ending with a brilliant overview of the whole book. A shorter. more accessible work is his 1983 paperback Propuestas

Morales (Moral Propositions).
Aranguren was taken from
Madrid where he had died of kidney failure, to repose in the family vault in Avila among the greenery of the beautiful old cemetery facing the snowy Sierra Nevada de Gredos. In Avila, De Santa Teresa De Jesús A San Juan De La Cruz he wrote words that could stand as his epitaph: "Avila, forever remote, the past and the future. Avila, my end nation, my destiny. There, in the cemetery.

José Luis Lòpez Aranguren. philosopher, born June 9, 1909;

BET

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Birthdays

Sir Bernard Audley, founder, AGB Research, 72; Ralph Brown, sculptor, 68; and former MP, 72; Jean-Paul Gaultier, fashion designer, 44; Fred Heddell, chief executive, Mencap, 51; Joe Henderson, jazz musi-cian, 59; Shirley Maclaine, actress, 62; Christine Ockrent, journalist and broad-caster, 52; Stuart Pearce, footballer, 34; Lieut Gen Hev Pike, deputy commander-in-chief, UK Land Command, Falklands war commander, 53: Bridget Riley, painter, 65; Christopher Spence, founder and director, London Lighthouse, and his twin brother Peter Spence, creenwriter, 52; Barbra Streisand, actress and singer, 54; John Williams, guitarist, 55; Paula Yates, broadcaster and writer, 36.

Death Notices

FLEBRIQ, Frederick George, died prece-hilfy after a short filmse on April 18th eged 33. Much loved husband of 55 years to Margary, kather of Linds, Peter, David and lan, and grandsather of Amenda, Lee, Zevid, Juliet, Jessicz, Ctaire, Clara and Leo. A refired hospital pharmacist, exhaus-testic supporter of Northenis CCC and the Selnts und filelong sociated, he is greatly triesed.

In Memoriam

Births



Heaven's above

LOOK, look at the stars . . and what do we see? Viewers of CNN Today joined in a phonein to tell the world what they saw when pictures of stars emerging in the Eagle nebula, taken by the Hubble telescope, were screened. The anchors on the show were Lou Waters and Bobbic Battista and this extract is from Harper's. LOU WATERS: Pictures taken by the Hubble Space Telescope have created a phenomenon of sorts, with folks calling in. saying that they see something in those pictures that perhaps many others do not see. We have someone on the line from Texas. Texas, are

you seeing something here? CALLER: Yes, I do. I noticed it last night. I saw it on CNN as I was about to go to bed, and I thought, "That appears to be Jesus Christ, but I will wait until tomorrow and see if any one else sees what I see." To me, it looks just like him. WATERS: We've been getting a lot of calls from people who agree with you. Why do you

CALLER: I don't know. It just appears to be a picture of Jesus Christ. Let me say, first of all, that I do not go to church regularly. I try to live a plain, good life. I'm not a religious fanatic who, you know, sees Jesus Christ in everything I

WATERS: Right CALLER: But when I walked by the TV and looked at that. I thought, "My God, they say this is the birthplace of stars and things, and that appears to be Jesus Christ." BOBBIE BATTISTA: Okay. Thanks for calling. Let's check and see if anybody else agrees with you. To Nevada - you're

CALLER: Hi, I just saw a cow in the picture, just below

where the lady said she saw Jesus Christ. Plus there's a cat, and there's a dog barking up a tree, like he's treeing a

WATERS: Okay, Nevada, thanks a lot. Florida is on the line. Florida, what are you

seeing?
CALLER: I see a portrayal of what looks like Jesus Christ—the big hair, the skin, the mustache, the nose, the eyes. Like the lady from Texas, I don't attend a denominational church, but I believe in the Word and I clearly see that

WATERS: Okay, thanks a lot. BATTISTA: Thank you. WATERS: It's really remarkable that so many people called independent of one

BATTISTA: I see what they are talking about. I mean, I can see it, too, if you look at it long enough. WATERS: Okay. New Jersey is on the line. Maybe something different here. New Jersey? CALLER: Yes. BATTISTA: Goahead, What

do you see? CALLER: I see the Statue of Liberty.

BATTISTA: That's a new one. WATERS: All right, what do Toronto, go ahead. CALLER: Well, to me it looks a bit like Gene Shalit. WATERS: Gene Shalit. Seven thousand light years away -Gene Shalit BATTISTA: Which, we might

tutionalised historian. His leg-acy remains in the many pro-fessionals and enthusiasts for

whom he exemplified a life

lived for the cinema. He is sur-

vived by his wife Karen Latham Everson, and two chil-

dren from a previous

marriage.

add, is five thousand years be-fore the birth of Christ. WATERS: Well, I guess that doesn't mean anything, if you're into the Trinity and all

BATTISTA: No, that's trueabsolutely not. acsonately tion.
(Gene Shall, by the may, can be seen on NBC's Today programme, reviewing movies. His day job, however, is probably light years away in the Engle nebula).

More pleasure THAT John Lanchester. He may have wowed British critics with his first novel, The Debt To Pleasure, but the Americans won't be long cutting him down to size, will they? Here's what the New York Times

Currently the deputy editor of

The London Review of Books, Mr Lanchester has been a book reviewer, a sports journalist, an obituary writer and, for three years, the restaurant critic of The Observer. One could say, cautiously, that he might think about giving up his day job.

ings. Hollywood movies of the past were only accessible via books that combined produc-tion stills with industrial and

narrative history. They

formed a partial archive of films that I never expected to

see. This was how I came to know the work of William K

Everson.

Bill wrote the first film book I ever bought. The Bad Guys. Twenty years later, he

interviewed me for a job in NYU's department of cinema

Bill Everson . . . end of an era for the independent collector

Bill Everson led by example, I with one cinema, no televi-

His passing marks the end of the independent film collector and the uninsti-

Toby Miller writes: I grew up NYU's department of cinema in a small Australian city, studies. As others fired ques-

Agent Presley

Essentially a 1950s character Elvis was out of sympathy with the 1960s. He was a grea supporter of the Vietnam war and had a personal meeting with Nixon, declaring himself to be a concerned American who deplored the drug culture, the hippies, and the lack of respect for the Ameri-can flag. What he particularly wanted from this meeting, to which he reportedly wore "more mascara than the Avon Lady", was for Nixon to give him a Narcotics Bureau badge and make him a federal agent at large. He got his badge, which he was to wear some years later to arrest one of his retinue, "Hamburger James", an inoffensive character whose job was to fetch

burgers. Elvis thought James

had stolen some incriminatine pornographic photographs, and he stopped a plane taking off by boarding it at the last moment and. flashing his badge at the pilot. He hauled James off and tried to remember the suspect's rights. "James," he said, "you

have the right to remain. silent, you have the right to an attorney . . . And you have the right to all the rest of that



Fearful ... Psychology Today in the formation of psychiatric Desmond Christy

shit. Get the fuck in the car." It was all part of a fascination with law and order that had begun in childhood with Cap tain Marvel, the all-American comic book character on whom Billy Smith recalls Elvis modelling his personal ity and perhaps also the 1970s Elvis look, with the one piece jumpsuit, wide belt and

Phil Baker reviewing Elvis Aaron Presley (Harper Collins, £16.99) in The Times Literary Supplement.

Culture-bound

You've probably never heard of koro - the delusion that your genitals are receding into your body. But for folks i East Asia, it's a very real and understandably frightening — condition If koro is not well known in

the West, it is because some mental disorders - psychiatrists call them "culturebound syndromes" -- are largely specific to particular locales. They may be the ulti-mate example of how culture belief, and experience interac problems. Lest North Ameri-cans develop a cultural superiority complex, consider this: Asians would be baffled by the thought of someone eating a delicious meal amd then intentionally vomiting it up. We, of course, call it bulimia. Some other culture-bound syndromes: Tabanka syndrome (Trini-

dad): depression in men abandoned by their wives. Amok (Southeast Asia): violent rampage, often followed

Piblokto (Greenland): "Arctic hysteria", extreme anxiety or Taijin kyofusho (Japan): Fear

that one's body is offensive in appearance or odor. Psychology Today opens a can of . . . (fill in some appropriate creature from whatever culture is determining your use of language).

Jackdaw wants your Javels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London ECIR 3ER.

Tomorrow: The IoD slant on Europe

Hardly Ab Fab at Sears, page 12 Plus: Kohl's bungalow summit

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

Forte in £1bn fight back

Sir Rocco nears new funds deal

Patrick Donavan City Editor

IR Rocco Forte is close to securing up to £1 billion worth of City backing to help fund a bid for part of the hotel business he lost when Granada took over his family-controlled leisure empire earlier this year.

Funding deals are in an ad-

venture capital arms of the Prudential and CinVen. An agreement is expected to be finalised after a series of presentations to institutions over the next three weeks. Proposals are likely to include a pledge to float the putative notes groun on the stock man. hotels group on the stock mar-ket. City sources said a number of financial options are being considered, although Sir Rocco is expected to opt for a conventional "debt to equity

The aim is to give Sir Rocco shough financial fire-power to bid for at least parts of the expected auction by Granada of the 84-strong Maridien hotel chain and the 18 Exclusive hotels, which include famous packed soon. Advisers a table at the Balle Part.

Sources close to Sir unnamed new compartial a funding packed hotels, which include famous packed soon. Advisers names such as the Hyde Park Hotel. Grosvenor House and

However, Sir Rocco is also considering other possible hotel acquisitions and will press ahead with the deal even if his hid for some of the Gra-nada hotels falls.

The forthcoming Granada sell-off has attracted huge interest within the hotel industry and rival bids are expected. from Marriott, Sheraton and the French group, Accor. No value has been put on the combined Meridien and Exthey would be worth in excess

Sources close to Sir Rocco's sources cose to Sir Roccu's unnamed new company insist that a funding package is expected soon. Advisers helping Sir Rocco Incimde JP Margan, Morgan Stanley, SBC Warburg, UBS and Cazenove.

The new company is staffed by just 10 people working out of the offices of Brunswick, a London-based multir relations

London-based public relations firm. Senior executives are not paying themselves any sal-ary until it becomes an estab-lished business.

flagged its intention to hive off these properties when it per bid for the Forte group.

sors. Lazards, over the next couple of weeks. It needs to complete the sell-

to complete the 23.9 billion takeover. However a Granada spokes woman last night said that no date had been fixed.

Sir Rocco is also expected to Forte directors who have quit since the company was taken over by Granada.

Over the past few months.

Granada has received the resignations of four key execu-tives. These include Peter Smith, who headed up Trave-lodge, and Meridien hotels chief Randolf Guthrie, who

marketing director, Richard Carrick, have also handed in

have bedly damaged morale of long-standing Forte managers prices at its hotels and road side restaurants. Executives who know the businesses well feel this will hit Forte's sales, particularly in the mid-market hotel business which is particularly prict-sensitive.

Meanwhole a dispute etill Meanwhile, a dispute still looms over Sir Rocco's sever-

ance pay off from the Forte group He has retained his Forte and Savoy directorships until an agreement has been reached. Sir Rocco last year earned £332,000 with a perfor-

Notebook

Brown justified in seeing red



Edited by Alex Brummer

T IS understandable that Gordon Brown is angry at the considerable tax avoidance industry which is seeking to drum up husiness on the back of the assumption that new Labour will be un-kinder to the wealthier taxpayer than the Tories.

After all, Labour will proba

bly never forget the last election campaign when the late John Smith's budget Red Book gave Tories the ammunition to scupper Labour's

mined not to make the same mistakes. It was particularly angered at the use by KPMG of a proposal for an investment-income surcharge which surfaced at the time of the 1992 election, but plays no part in new Labour's think-ing. That said it was almost certainly a mistake for Mr Brown to have been so defen-sive about a KPMG document which will be seen by a tiny minority of the electorate, most of whom would probably

never vote Labour anyway. It was far more important for Mr Brown, when addressing an Industry Forum Business Conference attended by leading figures, from corpo-rate life and the City, to make the case for Labour's policy towards industry and in par-ticular some sensible ideas for using the tax system to enlönger-term

Accounting firms and personal financial advisers spend much of their time dreaming up new ideas to encourage investors to churn their money, so that the firms can claim ever higher commissions and fees. The kind of material used by KPMG and others circulates at every budget, whoever is in power There is, of course, a duty of accuracy but guessing what Labour will do - when they have refused to expand on the specifics of their tax plans -

However, there is one dangerous element in the advice currently available — the enoffshore to Guernsey, Jersey, Luxembourg and other such investment havens. The au-thorities may have no formal exchange rate policy at present but huge capital outflows overseas, which put downward pressure on sterling could have dramatic conse-

Rentokil raid

administration.

ENTOKIL'S £2.1 billion bid for BET is ahaping up for a nail-biting fin-ish. Rentokil has now made its long-awaited move into the market for BET shares, in an attempt to shift opinion back in its favour. Sentiment was-

moving away from Rentokil, following M & G's pledge to back BET last week, and contimed to do so again yesterday, when three more BET shareholders pledged their support, including the Prudential.

However, this, along with the spirited campaign fought by John Clark, BET's Viet-nam-vet chief executive, may

The fact is there are just too many people with an interest in a Rentokil victory. It is estimated that around 43 per cent of BET shares have changed hands since the bid was launched and many of these are still thought to reside in the hands of arbitra-geurs, who are widely ex-

ported to back Rentokil.

More seriously, while it is
widely accepted that Mr
Clark and his team have done a good job in restoring BET's fortunes, they are asking the City to back a recovery story which is still embryonic Compare this with Clive

Thompson's track record at Rentokil, which dates back over 14 years, and which will appeal even more strongly to any longer term shareholder. some as having been compla-cent in Rentokil's bid strut-

egy, relying simply on his Nevertheless, many believe he deserves the opportunity to run a larger enterprise. It is for this reason more share holders are likely to back

Export struggle reverting to type. After four years of distinctly

un-British recovery, based on strong exports and a booming manufacturing sector, indusmanufacturing sector, indus-trial firms are finally running out of steam — and the con sumer is picking up the The Confederation of Brit firmed the shift. According to its latest snapshot of manufacturing activity, factories are shedding jobs at the fast-

to cut production for the first This gloom is of foreign origin, with key export markets on the Continent in no shape

tying order books force firms

to aplash out on British But the picture from the British High Street is much brighter, the CBI insists, with the New Year pick-up in sales remaining fairly robust into

the spring. Kate Barker, the Confederation's chief economist said the Government's Budget forecast of 3.5 per cent growth in consumer spending in 1996, which looked heroic last November, now looks perfectly

As a result, the CBI reckons UK base rates can stay at 5 per cent, and is much more interested in monetary policy across the Channel: German and French consumers are the ones who need to be enticed back to the shops. The CBI therefore welcomed last week's half-point cut by the German Bundesbank, and

tempting to put behind it three troubled years of finan-

cial problems. The payoffs comes just a year after the group disclosed that it had

paid £543,000 in compensation to Philip Soar, its former chief executive, together with

fidence in Blenheim was badly dented last year by the

posting of four profit warnings amid signs of a collapse

in its key exhibition market.

However the business is generally regarded to be in the process of being turned

around by managing director

Steffan Svenby. Shares were

vesterday trading unchanged

Satellite firm to launch in Latin **America**

ien King

717 0

4.7%

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7.93

Death Notices

in Memoriam

100

and satellite TV programmer, yesterday announced a tie-up with media groups Sony and Time Warner to launch a satellite TV channel for Latin America. However, the channel, Mundo Ole, will face stiff

competition from Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, which has already formed a joint venture to broadcast to the region.

per cent stake in Mundo Ole, which is expected to be available to more than 10 million households in the region.

It will contain a mixture of news and entertainment programmes from programme makers in Britain, Europe, the US and Australia.

Flextech's maximum financial commitment to the deal will be £9 million, with Time Warner and Sony taking a 35 per cent stake, while another partner - Ole Investments will own the other 32.5 per

But Mundo Ole will do well to compete with the News Corp venture, an-nounced last November, which has been set up in conjunction with Mexican and Brazilian companies and which will operate an array of new satellite

forces with America's big-gest cable operator TCL which itself owns half of Flextech, and which boasts a substantial presence in

Until yesterday's announcement, it was thought the combined firepower of TCI and News Corp would deter any new entrant to the fast-growing Latin American market, where satellite is expected to emerge as the mam delivery medium.

Already, Mexican broadcaster Grupo Televisa — the world's biggest maker of Spanish-language pro-grammes — has decided not to launch its own satellite service, on the grounds that it could not compete on its own against the likes of News Corp.



We don't get many mummies in here...At these prices, I'm not surprised. £50 for half a pint? I don't care if Scottish and Newcastle has produced just 1,000 bottles based on Tutankhamun's original recipe—nobody falls for pyramid selling any more.

BET cites main investor Regulator dents loyalty to thwart bid

ET: the services group fighting a hostile \$2.1 billion bid from News Corp has joined rival Rentokil, yesterday paraded three more leading shareholders in an attempt to convince the City that opin-ion was moving in its favour.

The announcement came hours after Rentokil made its long-awaited move into the market, snapping up some 6.8 per cent of BET, and splash-ing out £140 million in the Both sides will spend today

and tomorrow making last ditch presentations to City in-stitutions ahead of the bld's closing deadline on Friday. BET, which last Friday said it was being supported by its biggest shareholder M&G, said that three of its biggest shareholders — the Prudenagement and Hermes -In an amouncement timed

A spokesman added: "We continue to see institutions A spokesman added: "We continue to see institutions putting the the case that BET is an exciting growth and a history of backing institutions."

company."
Of BET's other big share-holders, it is thought that Standard Life will be likely to back Rentokil, although there is no indication yet how Threadneedle Asset Manage-ment and Sun Life will vote. At the same time, BET

company.

There have been rumours throughout the bid concern-

programme. BET said the pledges meant that four out of its seven biggest shareholders had now agreed to support it, representing some 17.25 per victory.

wictory.
Mr Thompson said it had incumbent managements in bid battles.

Asked about BET's announcement concerning Mr. Clark, Mr Thompson added: "Personally, I find it astonishing that BET should feel it necessary to put out a state-ment that they are committed

At the same time, BET again sought to reassure wavering shareholders, emphasising the commitment of its highly-rated chief executive, John Clark, to the company.

There have been rumours that they are committee to delivering growth for shareholders. That's what we're here for."

All told, 150 million BET shares changed hands yesterday, of which nearly 136 million were bought by broken.

throughout the bid concerning the future of Mr Clark
who, via a controversial incentive scheme, stands to
pick up 25 million if BET
loses:

Meanwhile, Rentokil shares closed up 5% p at
358%p, valuing its bid for BET Meanwhile. Remtokil chief at nearly 215%p a share.

speculation that C&W was preparing to put presure on BT over the tie-up by bringhouse, ever more goods and | fraud squad officer said secu-services are being offered for | rity and intelligence officers

com's privileges leaves un-answered the key question of whether Beijing will bless the proposed merger. The regulators' move transmission overseas and

dinary voice calls. "They have opened the could have been much

worse."
Cable & Wireless owns a 57 per cent stake in HK Telecom and earns the bulk of its profits from Hong Kong's dominant telecom-munications company.

And it is this link with

Hong Kong — and the pros-pect of expansion into China and other Asian mar-kets — that is driving BTs current strategy of ·HK Telecom's licence, which extends beyond next

year's change of sovereignty until 2006, creates a of its tornover.

1981 has created uncerpay, according to the compa-tainty about the extent of my's annual report. The move came amid 1981 has created uncer-HK Telecom's right to bar

> tions Authority, said: HK Telecom does not have a monopoly."
>
> He ruled that HK Telecom

of the market. areas such as data trans-

mission and private corporate networks will be be open to rival operators. Despite its reputation as

Exhibitions group directors share £1m severance pay

City Editor

THREE departing directors of the Blenheim exhibiduced since the granting of tion's group shared nearly £1 the exclusive licence in million worth of severance

> The biggest beneficiary was Miguel Escobar who picked up £400,103. Mr Escobar formerly ran the group's Spanish operations. Steven Januzzi received a

> cer of the group's US operatopher Crowcroft received a \$175,000 payment. A spokeswoman was unable to say in detail why any of the direc-tors had left the company.

The payoffs are relatively large for a company like Blen-heim, which made £35.6 million pre-tax profits in the year

The annual report says current year trading has started well but a projected slowdown in the economies of Western Europe may have some impact on our rate of growth in

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS

Germany 2.2200 Greece 357.25 Hong Kong 11.49 India 51.68

italy 2,302 Maita 0.5350

Organised crime finds hiding place for loot on Internet

Dan Atkinson in Lisbon

the internet in an attempt to was speaking to the escape the surveillance of from police, judiciaries and escape the surveillance of law firms around the world at the estate of the escape the surveillance of law firms around the world at the estate of th the world, a conference was the international conference

"Electronic money laundering will boom, traditional paths are already highly supervised," said Dr James Backhouse of the London School of Economics.

Criminal, terrorist and switched into virtual money or "e-cash", moved around records".

the world and later translated. At present the point at back into conventional which the electronic money is money. One reliable money turned back into hard cash laundering route, he said, could make the fraudsters would be to set up a grount vulnerable. But said or Back-

posedly supplying informa-tion services, in fact, it will RAUDSTERS and money act as a clearing house for launderers are colonising tainted funds. Dr Backhouse on money laundering and eco-nomic crime held in Lisbon.

A critical difference, according to Dr Backhouse, sep-arates the Internet's financial systems from conventional credit and debit cards. These leave an audit trail of transacdrug related funds will be tions for the police but "e cash removes most of these

new currencies created on the

Internet will exist independent of central banks. Earlier in the conference John Moscow, a senior investigator for the state of New York, warned that any "mischievous financial transaction that passed through US territory" may be pursued and prosecuted by the American authorities. With two

sale on the Internet and

priced in scash. Because of this the money need never

return to the conventional banking system. In addition,

in the US had found them selves with time on their Cold War and were now fo-cusing on the underworld. Serious Fraud Office assistant director Chris Dickson launched a stinging attack on Austria, claiming its secret bank accounts hold an esti-mated \$140 billion (£93 billion), much of it the

proceeds of crime and terror. The Channel Islands were softly approach to investigating foreign tax fraud and fraud on the EU itself. Mr

BT's plan for £33bn merger Andrew Higgins sees Hong Kong

calls monopoly ONGKONG Telecom. the prize Cable & Wireless asset at the heart of British Telecom's 233 billion merger hopes yesterday lost a monopoly grip on the colony's fastest-growing international ser-vices but escaped with the

merger target

lose overseas

core of its bugely-profitable privileges intact. A move by Hong Kong regulators to trim HK Tele com's exclusive rights over oversees calls complicates - but, say analysts, should not break — any merger be-tween BT and Cable & Wireless.

early May and appointing a new chief executive. But the long-awaited "clarification" of HK Tale-

prises open data and fax virtual private networks. relatively new services that carrently account for only 12 per cent of HK Telecom's revenue but which are growing far faster than or-

market to competition in nated in dollars, and with most of those transactions clearing through New York, the scope for American action is clearly wide. A former criminal and terrorist tunds.

most lucrative telecom business. For example, in-ternational services provide more than 60 per cent New technology intro-

competition. Alex Arena, director-gen-eral of the Telecommunica-"There is considerable Steven Ianuzzi received a scope for liberalising international services in which office as chief executive offi-

should retain its monopoly on voice telephone services. the most lucrative segment But new high-growth

a model of free-wheeling capitalism, Hong Kong has been slow in allowing com-

Australia 1.8550 France 7.4950

Martine U.5390 Nether-baris 2 4875 Spain 184.50 New Zealand 2.1450 Switzerland 1.79 Turksy 10.7321 USA 1.4750

the second half.

Iran bill sparks fears of 'extra-territorial' bullying

US sanction plans threaten UK firms

an Black

RITISH firms stand pounds of business f, as expected, the United States passes controsanctions on non-American companies trading with Iran's oil industry.

Concern is mounting on both sides of the Atlantic that the issue, already discussed several times between Prime Minister John Major and President Bill Clinton, will create a damaging public row if the bill passes into law.
Under the proposed legisla-

tion, drawn up as part of a wide-ranging effort to isolate fran, non-US companies involved in Iran's gas and oil sector could have their operations in the US prohibited and tions in the US prohibited and find themselves excluded from US government

According to figures com-piled by the Department of Trade and Industry, of the \$330m of British exports to Iran last year, half went to the oil and gas sector while the London office of the National Iranian Oil Company spends around £40m annually in

Most British companies selling pumps, valves and connectors to Iran also sell to

the US and now face a stark | European Union partners. Inchoice between the two tense lobbying against the murkets. Foreign Office officials are

also arguing that the measures, expected to become law next month, are unlikely to writing to individual conaffect Iran in the short and medium term, and that the main result will be to penalise British firms and encourage a black market in parts and spares. But Britain's concern is

less about the relatively small sums of money involved and mined more about the extension of "essenti the principle of "extra-territo-riality" — when a government imposes sanctions be-cause it objects to something outside its jurisdiction. Britain, which is the US's

largest trading partner in the European Union, is also wor-ried about the growing tendency for delicate issues of in-ternational trade and foreign policy to be driven by a do-

mestic political agenda.

The Iran bill was introduced last year by Senator Alphonse D'Amato of New York and was watered down, but an even tougher version has just emerged from the House International Relations Committee. Separate moves are being proposed against non-US firms investing in Libya. Similar unilateral US measures imposed against Cuba have already drawn strong

make any headway in Washington; the British amhassa dor. Sir John Kerr, has been while efforts are being made to find a united position within the EU.

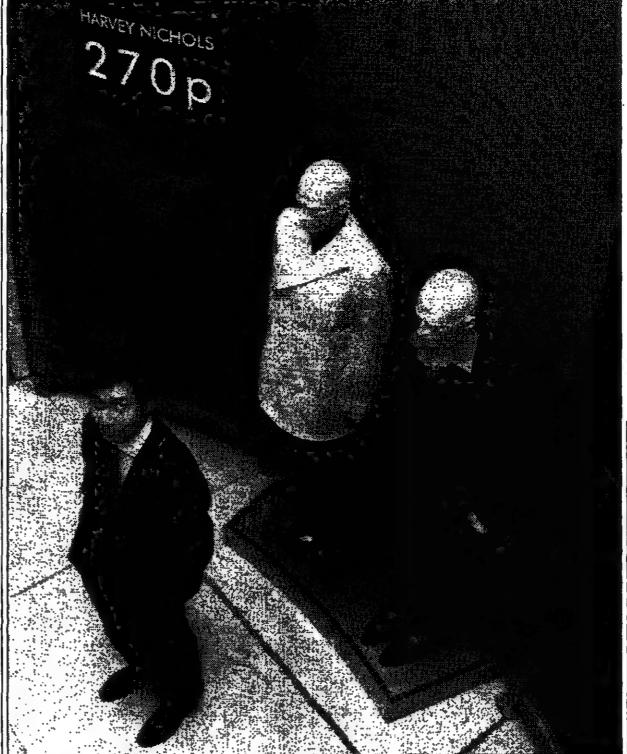
The US insists that any le islation would not be in breach of World Trade the proposed action is determined by permitted "essential security interests" and would thus be hard for other member states to oppose. President Clinton an-

nounced last May that he was banning all trade between US companies and Iran. After the embargo took effect, US oil companies halted purchases of Iranian crude amounting to about \$4 billion a year. For US policymakers, Iran

is probably one of the two most dangerous regimes on earth — the other being Libya. US officials accuse Iran of:

• engaging in a "crash programme" to develop nuclear weapons with tachnology im-

 seeking to sabotage the Middle East peace process;
 menacing its neighbours; protests from Britain and its | rights abus



KipperWilliams

Harvey **Nicks** saleshares must go

London department store frequented by, among others, the Princess of Wales and the fictional Patsy and Edna of TV's Absolutely Fabulous — will be valued at almost £150 milion when shares in the

Shares of Harvey Nichols which is owned by Hong Kong luxury goods company Dickson Concepts, are being at 270p each. The shares are being priced at the top end of City expectations, reflecting high demand for the issue, which was 15 times

The valuation also repr sents a handsome profit for Dickson, which is retaining a 50.1 per cent stake in Har vey Nichols, and which bought the then loss-mak-ing store from Burton, the

Babcock claims Saudi dissident cost £200m

HE engineering combine Babcock International yesterday claimed it had lost £200 million of Saudi orders over the al-Mas'ari affair, savaging profits to a

mere 23 million.

John Parker, Babcock's chairman, said that like other UK process engineering companies it had lost contracts - mainly to US and Japanese firms — because of the continuing disleading Saudi dissident, Mohammed al-Mas'ari who has been running a politi-cal campaign against Saudi rulers from Britain.

His successful court appeal earlier this mouth against deportation irri-

cess contractor has won a accounts for the bulk of ended the day off 15%p at job down there in six Babcock's sales in the 112p.

no discrimination against British companies on political grounds." It urged com-panies with a problem to produce proof.

Firms including Davy,
John Brown Engineering for two years, cuiting staff and Babcock, claimed last week that the authorities in Riyadh had withdrawn their favoured contractor was pretty awful." be said. status on some projects, and eliminated them from the bidding process on others. The shares of British Aerospace yesterday fell 14p to 864p as concern grew that its mammoth al-Yamamah arms deal worth £2 billion a year — might be affected by the

Mr Parker said "lost" Sandi orders involved proand the Saudi regime.

Mr Parker said: "As far the petrochemicals industry. Saudi Arabia normally They later railled and

months." The Department | Middle East. He said the of Trade and Industry said: company had been estab-"The Saudis have given us lishing new markets in Yemen. Syria, and Pakistan, to offset lost business in Saudi Arabia.

Mr Parker added that the group had also faced prob-lems in Germany, where

In a warning issued to the Stock Exchange, Babcock said that group profits would be "significantly below" market forecasts in the second half of 1995-96. After an £18 million opera-tional loss, offset by a £21 million exceptional gain, profits will reach only £3 million for the year to

The news sent the group's

Strong arms may not be quite enough to steer Sears out of troubled waters

OUTLOOK/ ROGER COWE doubts if Sir Bob Reid's deck-clearing will put retailer on the right course

now chairman of Sears. 1995 was a year of "clearing the decks for action", so he could accept yesterday that the reported pre-tax loss of £120 million could be decribed as a bloodbath. But he

retailing in the UK". The trouble is that Sears tous once a real force in UK ed less so by the year.

And the question is whether the deck-clearing will finally be followed by full speed ahead after years of poor navigation, or whether management will continue to spend its time desperately trying to plug holes below the waterline.

The augurs are not good. For years, Sears has been hot on strategy and poor on execution, and that does not seem to have changed with the arrival of Liam Strong as chief executive from British Airways in 1992.

Mr Strong's marketing background seems to have resulted in sharper strategic thinking, but every year brings some new operational problem and his preferred solution seems to be to chop off the offending limb. That ap-proach has a long tradition at Seers, which has sold businesses as diverse as house building and the William Hill

huge loss was an exceptional charge of \$220 million stemming from the sale of famous shoe shops such as Sexone and Freeman Hardy Willis.

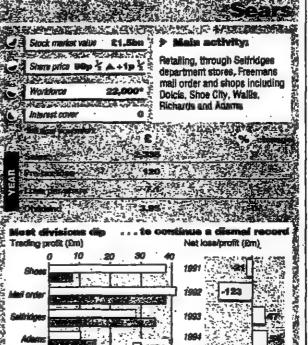
the basic trading of the group was poor, even with the bene-fit of a 53rd week of trading. Only Adams childrenswear and the Selfridges department and the Senringes department store increased profits. The upheaval in shoes led to poor sales, lower profit margins and higher costs which added up to £31 million. Even the continuing brands saw profits dip from £28 million to £16

million, thanks mainly to a miserable time at Dolcis. Other divisions fared much better. But the Freemans mail order business reported alightly lower sales, after tak-ing out the extra week, and profits fell by 23 million — apparently because of poor recruitment of agents to take the catalogues. In womens-wear, Miss Selfridge had a were too fashionable, products were too fashionable, produc-ing a £7 million drop in prof-its which offset a better result

from Wallis.
The trouble with retailing. as others such as House of Fraser have illustrated, is that it is very easy to buy the

CR Sir Bob Reid, once of | betting chain over the past 10 | does it, even Marks & have built a hugely powerful evidenced by the belated promotion of Selfridges in location. brand. That way, customers are buying the name (such as M&S or Next) just as much as Good retailers make fewer such mistakes, and spot them

more quickly. Great retailers the clothing.
can persuade people to buy. Mr Strong was recruited for



tions other than London. But build a brand in the crowder than it is in the air, where BA had a virtual monopoly. Sears' dominance of High Street shoe retailing was a litsubstantial, but that dominance seems to have been dissipated. The new formats, Shoe Ex-

press and Shoe City, are growing fast, and it has long been recognised that Sears would do better with far fewer formats, but surely it wasn't necessary to abandon virtually everything else so

expensively?
Retail analyst John Richards of NatWest Markets applied Sir Bob Reid's nautical analogy: "The boat has been sailing in rough seas and they have been throwing lots of stuff overboard to stay affoat. They are clearly sailing into less troubled waters but there is still a credibility problem

as to whether they have the right captain."

Mr Strong said yesterday the year had begun badly in mail order and there would be little good news in the first six months. Pretty soon after that he will be the roll. that he will have to demon-strate that Sears has more skill at retailing than meta-phors, or he is likely to walk.

News in brief

1.4m on line for Railtrack shares

MORE THAN 1.4 million people are reported to have registered with the 110 share shops around the country with the intention of cashing in on the Railtrack share offer. City sources said that the response to the share offer, registration for which closes next Monday, had been good and that a final surge was expected before the close.

Those registering will be able to choose either an instalment discount or bonus shares. The instalment discount is 15p off the price of each share purchased in the UK public offer. As an alternative, those registering can choose bonus shares. They will receive one free share for every 15 purchased and held continuously until May 31, 1999. — Keith Harper

Pru silent over Friends bid

PRUDENTIAL, the UK's largest life insurer, yesterday declined to comment on reports that it had made an offer to buy mutual life group Friends Provident. Prudential is understood to be keen to acquire a mutual, but analysts have also linked it to several other candidates, particularly Scottish Widows. Friends Provident, which is also understood to have caught the

eye of both Sun Alliance and Abbey National, may make its future clearer after its annual general meeting being held today. Friends Provident, which has £15 billion in funds, is understood to have received a handful of bids in the region of £750 million to

New CAA chairman named SIR Malcolm Field, former head of WH Smith, the books and

periodicals chain, was yesterday appointed chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority in succession to Sir Christopher Chataway, who stands down at the end of the month. Sir Malcolm's family's wholesale newspaper business was taken over by WH Smith in

He comes to the C.A.A at a time when it is handling 12 per cent more flights than in 1993, while average flight delays have fallen by 8 per cent over the same period. — Keth Harper

Lower bill for Equitas

LLOYD'S of London has sharply cut its estimates of the cost of setting up Equins, the company planned to take over the loss-stricken insurance market's old liabilities. Revised figures sent syndicates show the total cost to Names should be much lower than the £1.9 billion originally predicted by Lloyd's. The Depart-ment of Trade and Industry recently put the cost at £1.5 billion.

The Names will have to pay a premium to reinsure their individual old liabilities into Equitas. Market sources said the new premium forecasts have been reduced from "frightening" sums to "almost nothing" for some Names. — Pauline Springeri

Tunnel deepens Stena losses

STENA, the world's largest international ferry company, lost more in the first quarter this year than in the same period in 1995 because of strong competition from Eurotunnel. The company's pre-tax loss deepened to 504 million kronor (543 million) from 408 million kronor. — Bloomberg

Biondi's the new star for Seagram's MCA studio

Mark Tran in New York

VCA, the Hollywood Vestudio acquired last year by drinks giant Seagram, yesterday ended its long search for a chief executive by appointing top entertainment recentive by the Brandi

executive Frank Biondi. Mr Biondi, admired on Wall Street for his financial and deal-making skills, was fired as chief executive of Viacom, the parent company of Para-mount Communications, in

January.
Viacom chairman Summer Redstone sacked his right-hand man after complaining about his lack of

aggressiveness.
MCA has been looking for a proven entertainment execu-tive since the legendary Lew Wasserman stepped aside after the Hollywood studio was bought by Seagram from Japan's Matsushita Electric Industrial last summer for

Seagram chief executive of-ficer Edgar Brontman has been under intense scrutiny as he assembles his top team to revive MCA, which had become too dependent on film director Steven Spielberg. The director has moved on to form his own studio, Dream-Works, with former Walt Disney film studio chief Jeffrey Katzenberg, and records

mogul David Geffen.
In luring Mr Biondi to
MCA, Mr Bronfman will have further enhanced his credibility as a media magnate.

The appointment follows that of Ron Meyer as MCA president and chief operating

officer. Mr Meyer was presi dent of Creative Artists Agency, Hollywood's leading talent agency. Although he has good contacts with direc-tors and actors, Mr Bronfman was looking for someone with more business acumen to guide MCA as it competes against other entertainment giants such as Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. Time Warner and Viacom.

Labour offers limited defence on union rights

WORKFACE/ Censure of UK law may not cease under a Blair government, says SEUMAS MILNE

is in the international dock again over its trade union legislation. This time, it has been taken to task by the International Labour Organisation — the United Nations body responsible for employment affairs — for a 1993 law allowing employers to discriminate against trade union members over pay

It is possible that a Labour government could follow in its footsteps as Labour has made clear that it will not be repealing the bulk of the anti-union legislation.

According to the Geneva-based ILO's Committee of Experts, the provision — passed in the House of Lords after the Court of Appeal found against an at-tempt by the Daily Mail to penalise journalists breaks its convention 98 on freedom of association. Britain, the ILO insists. should change the law to

conditions of employment through collective acriptions, and, most signifibargaining".

The Government has

been damined repeatedly by the ILO: for banning unions at the GCHQ electronic spy centre; for outlawing all forms of solidarity and "secondary" action; for de-nying unions the right to sanction their own mem-bers for strikebreaking; and for allowing employers to sack strikers. Despite being a signatory

to the ILO conventions, the Government has made clear its disdain for such declarations by tightening trade union controls still further after each complaint — and been de-nomiced by Labour.

The party has yet to settle its policies on union and em-ployee rights but leader Tony Blair has promised to sign up to the Social Chapter, restore union rights at GCHQ; extend basic employ-ment rights to all workers

cantly, introduce a legal right to union recognition where more than half a workforce want it. This is all music to union. ears. But the likelihood is

This is international law after all. Any decent-minded government should adhere to the

conventions.

There would have to be exceptional circumstances why that should not be so Michael Meacher

that it will go no further. | package of reforms will go That means not just continued ballots, picketing controls and sequestration of trouble, the TUC and the trols and sequestration of union funds, but that the union funds, but that the big unions are keeping full panoply of restrictions their heads down on the protect workers from being from day one; end unions on the right to take induspenalised for attempting obligation to-reballot memtrial action—some employ—stitute of Employment is another matter,

bers every three years on ment law experts argue it is Rights — a think tank spon automatic "check-off" sub- now almost impossible to sored by those same unions sored by those same unions

— will put the finishing
touches to a comprehensive now almost impossible to hold a legal strike — will remain on the statute book. And these are exactly the framework of union and employment rights, in line with ILO conventions, areas where the ILO has already crossed swords with the Government. which effectively lays down
a challenge to Labour's
minimalist approach.
Among the ILO rights the With the threat that any

IER wants enshrined in law is the right to take secondis the right to take secondary and sympathy action and to strike to promote "professional, social or economic interests".

Michael Meacher, Labour's employment spokesman, is alarmed at the prospect of any argument with the ILO and insists a Labour sovernment.

sists a Labour government would be "very concerned to adhere to the conven-tions. This is international law after all. Any decent minded government should adhere to them. There would have to be exceptional circumstances why that should not be so." will see eye to eye with him

Champion jockey expects bold showing from 1,000 Guineas outsider. Ron Cox reports

Dettori chooses Maid For The Hills

NOTHER piece in the Classic jigsaw slotted into place yesterday when Frankie Dettori was booked to ride Maid For The Hills for David Loder in the Pertemps 1,000 Guineas on Sunday week.

Stable companion to Blue Duster, pulled out of the Guineas because of a muscle problem, Maid For The Hills stayed on to finish fifth behind Thrilling Day in the Shadwell Stud Nell Gwyn Stakes at last week's Craven

"Twe never ridden her be-fore on the track and she's beaten me a few times," said Dettori, who had two winners

at Pontefract yesterday.

"I've ridden her in work a few times and she ran a nice race in the Nell Gwyn."

There's an oddson chance to beat so we'll be hoping for second place." second place."

Maid For The Hills was

trimmed to 40-1 from 66-1 by Ladbrokes as a result of the booking of Dettori. Perhaps of greater significance is the fact that Shelkh Mohammed's first jockey will not be part-nering the Godolphin runner, Bint Shadayid, in the 1,000

Dettori carried the Godolphin colours into third place on Moonshell in last year's fillles' Classic. But, although he will ride Mark of Esteem for the Sheikh's Dubai-based.operation in the 2,000 Guine Richard Hills is expected to

partner Bint Shadayid.
Trained by John Dunlop last season when she won twice and chased home Bosra Sham in the Fillies' Mile at Ascot, Bint Shadayid repor-tedly failed to shine in her last piece of serious work in

reflected in the riding arrangements, although Bint Shadayid may be the type to reserve her best for the track

Southwell (A.W.)



Smart Winner . . . Smart Guest, second right, proves too good for his rivals in yesterday's Bentley Selling Stakes at Pontefract

Bosra Sham, the 5-2 on favourite, are certainly thin on the ground. A possible danger disappeared when Cri-quette Head decided to reroute A Voire Sante to the

Henry Cecil would appear

French 1.000 Guiness.

Storm Trooper, who was backed from 12-1 to 10's with Hill's yesterday. Silver Dome, one of Cecil's Derby entries and as low as 14-1 in some lists, will be an

Perth (N.H.)

Trooper may yet emerge as Cecil's premier Derby horse, but waiting in the wings is

This half-brother to Wern-ing and Commander In Chief This half-brother to Warning and Commander in Chief on Saturday with the 40th has a touch of class, according to good judges in the Cecil Gold Cup. Hill's yesterday weight and a 10 lengths beatyard. He has yet to show it on saw good support for Morceli, ing to old rival Sound Man. interesting runner in the Thresher Classic Trial at San-

and work-outs on the sand, to have things sewn up with down on Saturday. My infor-however searching, could be Bosra Sham and there is mation suggests Silver Dome quote of 25-1 may not last misleading.

Credible alternatives to his 2,000 Guineas candidate, Trooper may yet emerge as taken before Dushyantor slightly out to 11-2, but his reappears, probably at the Guineas meeting. trainer. Arthur Moore, and jockey, Francis Woods, con-For many, Flat racing will

tinue in fine form. They took the 250,000 BMW Chase at Punchestown yesterday with

Catterick card with guide to the form

Sport and Law

Skiing officials agree to pay for Maier death

lan Traynor in Bonn

HE trial of two senior international ski officials charged with "negligently killing" a for-mer Austrian world cham-pion was suddenly haited yesterday when a surprise out-of-court settlement was reached to pay the victim's Monday, instead blaming daughter more than the accident on the ever

defendants appeared to be "marginally guilty" and that the trial would be resumed unless they paid the settlement in full by the end of next month.

The 26-year-old Ulrike Maier, a popular two-times super giant slalom world champion, died in January 1994 in a World Cup down-hill in Garmisch-Partenkirchen in southern Germany. She broke her neck and died within hours after slipping and crashing into timing pole near the end of the run.

Hubert Schweighofer, her partner and father of her six-year-old daughter Me-lanie, blamed the two International Skiing Federation officials in charge of the race, Kurt Hoch, 46, of Austria, and Jan Tischhauser, 46, of Switzerland.

Nine months after the death the Bavarian prose-cution authorities halted their inquiries, deciding against pressing charges against the officials. But constant lobbying from Schweighofer and his legal team persuaded the prosecution to reopen the

the Munich court charged with manslaughter because of the siting of the timing pole, which narrowed the run by four yards. This, the prosecution alleged, made them responsible for the

tragedy. The two defendants vehemently denied their guilt when the trial opened on 2300,000 in compensation.

But in what threatened to be yet another benchmark verdict for sports authorities, the judge in the Munich court said that the two lessendants appeared to be she crashed.

she crashed. They told the court that the suspect timing post had been in place for four days before the accident and had prompted no protests. They added that in long careers in skling they had never seen or heard of an acci-dent of the type in which Majer died and that it could

not have been prevented. But the prosecution pinned the blame for the death squarely on the tim-ing post and the fact that it lacked adequate padding, and yesterday's settlement was hailed by Schweighofer as a partial admission of guilt by the officials.

He had said that if the two were found guilty he would then sue them for one million marks on behalf of his daughter. The agreed settlement of 600,000 Swiss crowns (around £320,000) fell about £120,000 short of the threatened million marks, but Judge Klaus Rebhan also ordered the defendants to pay 20,000 marks (£8,700) to the Garmisch mountain rescue service.
If the trial is resumed and

case.

His campaign came to a climax on Monday when the officials went before hefty fines.

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| Bettless 9-4 Astigore, 7-2 Chedialgh Lane, 9-2 Saudmoor Tenim, 6-1 Assessm | e Veniure, S-1 Nazarranio, |
| - Marine and Visitals' (-5 Crathering to produce not not and a | · Transiti |
| 19-1 Buddy's Frend, Sarose. | |
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| 3.30 HERA PERIAN AUCTION MARRIES STAKES STO OF CO. 251 | |
| 3 DEPICTION (25) R Good 9-0 | V Weeks 1 |
| | Fertine 2 |
| s S-05 FROSTMAN (10) T Beston 9-0 | |
| 2 5-15 PROBITMAN (14) T Berron 9-0 | |
| 3 0- NO HOUSE PLACE (240) B Hanbury 9-0 | |
| OS TOPOLOGICA BAY (14) MIT V ACOUNTY PO | W Nam 7 |
| COSTONALICA EN TOTAL COSTONAL | |
| TOPSHOUGH BAY 1749 MIT Y ADDING TO 1002-6 CHALLES (S) I BRIGHO 8-0 COUST HAPTEN STAR (22) MIT N MINISTER F-0 TARRITARYA N LIMBOSON 8-0 | W Num 7 T William 4 |
| 4 DESTRUMENTED BAY 1749 MAY VACAMINY ALTERNATION OF THE CONTROL (B.) Jacking 8-6 O-04500 MAPIER STAR (22) Max H Managing 8-6 O-04500 MAPIER STAR (22) MAR (22) MA | W Num 7 T William 4 |
| 4 DESTRUCTURE BAY THE MAY VALUE BY THE STREET BY THE STREET BY THE BARRIES STREET BY THE STREET BY T | W Ryan 7 T William 4 J Rismand (7) 6 L Tangar (6) 5 T G Rel anglille 5 |
| 4 DESTRUCTURE BAY THE MAY VALUE BY THE STREET BY THE STREET BY THE BARRIES STREET BY THE STREET BY T | W Ryan 7 T William 4 J Risemals (7) 6 L Tonger (6) 5 T G Roll amplifu 5 Namier Star, 20-1 Topanoora |
| 4 (DES-6 CHALCEC (B.) Daking 8-9 6 (DES-6 CHALCE) (B.) Daking 8-9 6 0-04500 MAPPER STAR (DES) birs H blanckey 8-8 7 TABITATIVA N (Burndon 8-9 TOP FORM TIPE Confession 9, Provinces 7 1 1884; Minut Mood 2 8 9 T Sprinks 10-1 (SP Palling) 9 cm | W Ryan 7 T William 4 J Rismand (7) 6 L Tangar (6) 5 T G Rel anglille 5 |
| 4 DESTRUCTURE BAY THE MAY VALUE BY THE STREET BY THE STREET BY THE BARRIES STREET BY THE STREET BY T | W Ryan 7 T William 4 J Risemals (7) 6 L Tonger (6) 5 T G Roll amplifu 5 Namier Star, 20-1 Topanoora |
| 4 (125-5 CHAIRCOME RAY 714) RAILY ACTION OF TOP CONTROL (#) Jacking 8-6 6 0-04500 MAPPER STAR (235) Mrs. N Hanssing 8-6 7 TASHTANYA N Limodon 8-6 TOP FORM TIPES Suppletion 8, President 7 1 2554 Minor Mood 3 8 9 T Synthe 10-7 (8 Palling) 9 rm Retting 5-4 Depiction, 17-4 No Isoting Pages, 7-2 Prontons, 8-1 Chaires, 16-11 Bey, 33-1 Tashthiya. | W Ryan 7 T William 4 J Risemals (7) 6 L Tonger (6) 5 T G Roll amplifu 5 Namier Star, 20-1 Topanoora |
| TOPARDOGRA BAY 7149 B | W Ryan 7 T Williams 4 J Edgement (7) 6 C Tangard (8) 5 T G Text amplifies 5 Nagyer Star, 35-1 Topsmoore 7-company |
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| TOPS TOPS ACCOUNT NAT TO SERVING S-9 GOSSO MAPPER STAR (22) Juny N Hamsley S-6 TASHTANYAN (Hamsley S-7 TRESS, Minusi Mood 3 & 9 T Spenike 10-4 (E Palling) S com Restings S-6 Depicion, 11-4 No Holing Piscs, 7-2 Frontinus, 8-1 Challes, 16-11 Restings S-6 Depicion, 11-4 No Holing Piscs, 7-2 Frontinus, 8-1 Challes, 16-11 Restings S-6 Depicion, 11-4 No Holing Piscs, 7-2 Frontinus, 8-1 Challes, 16-11 Restings S-7 Tashtaya. 1 000-120 MARTERIMA, 2009 (00) (87) S Bowling S-7 2 2301-00-120 MARTERIMA, 2009 (00) (87) T Edmington S-0 5 1450-0 SERVINGS (22) (87) N Holinsheed S-1 1 1500-1 SERVINGS (22) N HOLINSHEED S-1 1 1500-1 SERVINGS (22) N HOLINSHEED S-1 1 1500-1 SERVINGS (22) N HOLINSHEED S-1 1 1500-1 SERVINGS (23) N HOLINSH | W Ryan 7 T Williams 4 J Reference (7) 6 C Tempore (8) 5 T G Reference (8) 5 T G Reference (8) 5 C Tempore (8) 5 D Parish (8) 6 J Parish (8) 6 J Parish (8) 4 J Parish (8) 5 D R Reference (8) 5 D R Reference (8) 6 D Parish (8) 6 D P |
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Again PERTH 410 Steadlast Elite. SOUTHWELL: 2.00 Spencer's Revenge.



CHES-STOW

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tay); 2, The Go Abasid (3-4); 2, Lyrical
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Bakii. QUADPOY: £45.70. PLACEPOY: £406.80.



Under-21 match: England 0, Croatia 1

England are out of their depth

blows in Sunder-land it really not just the freezing breeze that caught England cold last

At Roker Park they were hesive side from the Balkans. If their senior XI are anythine as creative and robust this evening then it could be a long night chasing shadows for Terry Venables's men. The Croatians settled

upset by the tape of their national anthem short-circuiting. Jurk in midfield and Vucko slightly ahead of him dictated the pace of the first Both had shots, though they

were comfortably saved by Day, and it was England who came closest to scoring when their captain for the night, Rufus who was making his debut, hit the bar with a beader from Briscoe's corner.

The effort seemed to quell any nerves among the eight English debutants, the team having lined up 3-5-2 with Thatcher, Rufus and O'Con-nor at the back.

After the half-hour O'Connor's composure was some-what rufiled when Vugrinec stepped around him like a man avoiding a puddle and fired a shot that came back

O'Connor was soon joined in nis discomfort by his partners when a Vugrinec pass split them and allowed Covic a strike. Day again did well but the rebound fell to Vucko who thumped the ball home.

England's solitary response came as the first half ended when Cooke latched on to a just wide. At least the Manchester United teenager received a round of applause from the small gathering, more than Holland on the opposite flank who, being from Newcastle United, was boosd on his first touch. Holland then did something

that actually merited criti-cism — side-footing over from eight yards when it seemed easier to score.

At that point, seven min-ntes after the break, England should have been two down. Vugrinec broke speedily down the left before laying an inviting cross square to Vucko. Vucko, unmarked and with only Day to beat, seemed to take his eye off the ball and struck it horribly wide.

Spoke (Man Utd), Ford (Leads Vid Sondrie, Aston Villa, 86), Gellen (GPR Soore, Tranmere, 71), Dyer (Crystal Pal)

B International: Denmark 3, Scotland 0

Dismal Scots outclassed

Patrick Glenn in Nykoebing Falster

F THIS game were viewed as an opportunity for a clutch of Scotland's Euro '96 aspirants to play emselves out of contention it would have to be considered a huge success.

Of the 16 Scots who spent time on the field last night, only two or three could be said to have demonstrated the potential to move up to the senior squad: and one of them. Celtic's young full-back McNamara, will be a member of the Under-21 squad contesting the European Championship finals at the end of May and was not considered a candidate for Euro '96 in June.

Another. Booth, had al-ready established his credentials and needs only to prove his fitness; and Jess's largely unsupported diligence in midfield was probably enough to give him a chance of making the final 22.

But the Scots never seemed likely to disturb the peace of this seaside town. 80 miles from Copenhagen. The home side, by contrast, drew noisy acclaim from the 3,796 crowd - mostly schoolchildren and parents — with a polished

Larsen had been a menace to the visiting defenders even

before the first of his two goals in the last minute of the first half, running from deep into positions from which to do no more than drill the ball low to the left of Walker after Tomasson had rolled it across the penalty area to Composte-la's Bent Christensen, who simply moved it on to the un-

marked Larsen. He had to put a little more into his second effort, a magnificent goal which confirmed that the Scots were in for a hard night. Tobiasen's long cross from the left was deftly touched back by the substi-tute Bjur into the path of Larsen and he sent a flerce 20-

yard volley past Watt. The Danes were almost totally in control by the time Andersen scored the third in the 70th minute. Tomassor supplied Christensen on the right and the cut-back was so precise that the Rangers striker had only to make contact from six yards to send the ball hurtling into the net.

Tobisson, N. Jenson, J. Jenson, Larsen, Termisson. Best Christenson (Lyngby: Bjur. 61). Bent Christenson (Lyngby: Bjur. 61). Bent Christenson (Composible), Anderson: Gootta. And B. Waster (Partick Thistie: Wast, 46): Nellamara (Celtic), Whyte (Middlesbrough). Martin (Moherwell). C'Mell (Celtic, Robortson, 74). Class (Aberdoo): Cameron, 46). Lambert (Motherwell). Ravin (Tranmere). Jess (Covostry) McGalley (Bollon; Beoth. 46). Davie (Rangers, Shoere, 57). Reference J Karharon (Finland).

New faces are sprung on Prague

ICK McCARTHY has handed new caps to Ken Cunningham of Wim-bledon and Alan Moore of Middlesbrough for the Republic of Ireland's friendly against the Czech Republic this afternoon.

Cunningham will play as one of three central defenders in Prague, alongside Paul McGrath and Phil Babb. Moore, who plays in midfield for his club, is given his chance in attack

future in that position." Also getting a break is the Crystal Palace veteran Ray

first appearance since the 3-1 defeat by Austria in the





McGrath . . . centre-piece

European Championship qualifiers last September. Northern Ireland are set to offer four new caps partnering Niall Quinn.
"Ken Cunningham can do
a job for me in the centre of drawals has made room for defence," the manager said. the Bolton reserve goal-"I've known the lad since keeper Aldan Davison, the his Millwall days and I St Johnstone centre-half carson a have no doubt that he has a Danny Grifflu, and the U-21 FRIENDLY wingers Jon McCarthy of Port Vale and James Quinn of Biackpool. The team will

be announced today.

Bobby Gould is likely to
start cracking the whip
over Wales against Switzerland in Lugano tonight, his side's first game since their 3-0 thrashing by Italy in

Conyn Bay 1: Least 19wil 2, Botalon Cob 2.
Marine 3, Winsford URG 1
ICES LEAGUE Prensier Entelsions Aylesbury 1 Molesay 1: Borreham Wood 4, Hendon 0; Hayes 2, Harrow Borough 1.
PONTINE (GER FIRST Everion 1, Leads 7.
Second: Coventy 3, Sunderland 3.
AVON INSURANCE COMERINATION:
First Divisions Portsmouth 1, Brighton 0.
Totlanham 2, West Ham 2.
LEAGUE OR WALES: Cope Secol-final, eacond-leagt Barry In 2. Ebbs Vale 2 (agg 2-2: Ebbs Vale 2)
League Command January. "I was too soft on the players," he said. "I felt sorry for them because of the hard time they had bad with their clubs over Christmas and the New

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: Given: Kenna aboth Blackburn; Cuentingham (Wimbledon) McGrath (Aston Villa). Babb (Liverpool) Irenin (Manchester Lita). Houghton (Crystal Palace) Kennedy (Liverpool) Townsond (Aston (Man City). Moore (Mathebranch)

Jordi boy comes of age

Mark Fuller on the orange blossoming of Cruyff junior

ORDI CRUYFF, set to make his debut in the Holland team this evening, will be seeking to answer those critics who have suggested that although he has a famous father he lacks international pedigree. Johan Cruyff, who first donned the orange shirt of Holland 30 years ago, has tried hard to prevent his rep-utation overshadowing his be turned towards Johan when Jordi walks out into Rotterdam's Feyenoord Sta-dium tonight. And most fans

get at least a kick in the friendly against Germany.

"I'm coming to watch in Rotterdam because my son's election fills me with pride, Johan told reporters in an untion after Jordi's surprise in-clusion in the Holland squad was announced last Friday. "Of course I knew he had the qualities to play for the Netherlands. But I'm as proud as punch about it because playing for Holland is



are discussing the father's football genius rather than the potential of his 22-year-old

and his dad has promised to be there — at the same stadium where he made his international debut in Septem-

the high point in a football-er's career," said Cruyff mior, who went on to win 48

caps, scoring 33 goals for his parison between the two players. "The son has none of the quicksilver brilliance, astute positional play or dribbling skills of his father. He also misses his father's killer in-stinct. But Jordi is quick, Cruyff senior, who has always sought to separate his

strong and can play anywhere in attack," said Fred Stam, a Other experts have ques-tioned Jordi's inclusion in the squad. "He's only been back playing a month since a serious knee injury kept him out of the Barcelona team for half a year. He does his best but he is not international class. Maybe Guus Hiddink [the Holland coach] is also suffer-ing from nostalgia," said Ben de Graaf of De Volkskrant

Jordi's fitness, and some have suggested that his father drafted him into the Barcelona team too early, with a view to securing him a place family moved eight years ago. in the Dutch side for the European Championship in

role as father from that of coach, is incensed by any sug-gestion of a conflict of interests. "They [the media] are always trying to use my son as a rod to break my back," he Nevertheless the Barcelons coach clearly sees Jordi's

selection as a reward for his careful nurturing of his son's talent, first at Ajax's School of Excellence and then at Jordi was not the best player in the Ajax youth team; and Cruyff, then techni-

family moved eight years ago, he has cautiously moved Jordi through youth and B teams, only granting him his first-team debut two years Cruyff senior has sought solace in his son's career for a

The son also rises ... Jordi Crnyff in action for Barcelona in their top-of-the-table game against Atletico Madrid last weekend Photograph: CESAR RANGE

disappointing season with Barcelona, who in the space of 10 days were eliminated from the Champions' League and the Spanish Cup as well as having their league title hopes dashed.

Although Cruyff has been granted another season at Barcelona, relations with the

club's management are sev-

end of the season to join the eyes nearly fall out of their Dutch club PSV Eindhoven. sockets when I see what he Jordi copes well with the added pressure of playing under his father. "My dad was such a fantastic player, played so brilliantly, he is im-possible to duplicate. Nobody

was always referred to as Cruyff's son. But now they call me Jordi, so I must have

done okay," he said.
"My father and I have a normal relationship. On the pitch he is the trainer and I am a player, one of many at Barcelona. Sometimes I think he comes down harder on me than the rest to show them that I am not going to get any preferential treatment." But Jordi admits that train-

right-hand man Tonnie But Jordi admits that train-finals last week. "I'm eager to get revenge for that," said nounced he would leave at the times a we-inspiring. "My Cruyff junior.

times I have to stop and stand still Then I have to say to my-self. Don't think about it, don't look, get on with your Jordi's selection also ends ties. Holding both a Dutch striker had dallied with the

can do with a football. Some

idea of playing for Spain. He said the choice of Holland had not been so difficult in the end "Two years ago I had my doubts but this year I knew I would plump for Holland, given the chance." The Germany side will con-

tain several Bayern Munich players who helped beat Bar-celona in the Uefa Cup semi-

Evans looking to bring a taste of Bordeaux to Anfield

IVERPOOL's Roy Lof leading managers hoping to profit from the anticipated disintegration of the Bordeaux team this summer.

Although Bordeaux have

ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE First Division

Results

Soccer

5 523

Outord Utd (2) 6 Moody 18 57 Mas Rush 67, Beguchar Murphy 90

Waiseli (11 **3** Butler 25

Third Divisi

UMBORD LEAGUE: Premier Division Charley 0. Accrington Stanley 0: Eroley 4 Colveyn Bay 1: Leek Town 2, Boston Utd 2 Manne 3, Winslord Utd 1

5-6. Concan a Quay win on away goals). SPRINGHEATH PRINT CAPITAL

moal, second-replays Echemians 1, St. Pairchs Ath 2
LEAGUE OF BELLAND: Premier Divisions Cork C 2, Shelbourne 1
18 INTERNATIONAL: Donmark 3, Scotland 3

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUES Premier V. Hulf & Harteith S. Argan St. Pars 25 Milliam 12

Rugby League

tended Bordeaux's league game against Lens to assess the form and potential of Bixente Lizarazu, Zinedine Zidane and Christophe Du-garry. All three are full inreached the final of the garry. All three are full in-Uefa Cup, it is now accepted ternationals and all, bar-that three — and possible ring injury, will be named Dugarry.

Europe-Africa Zone Group

One when they lost 3-0 to Russia at La Manga, Spain

yesterday, Sam Smith from Essex, who

competition, went down 6-1, 6-3 to Elena Makarova before

Russia took a winning 2-0 lead when Elena Likhoviseva

beat the British No.1 Clare Wood 8-4, 6-4 in the top

singles.
It got worse when Wood and Smith went down 7-6, 6-1 to Makarova and Anna Kour-

nikova in the dead doubles

Rugby Union

Tennis

Having lost 2-1 to Belarus

NEGITIE CARLO OPENA First rounds A Costs (Sp) bi J Arrase (Sp) 6-2, 6-0 B Ulbrach (Cc) bt M Larson (Swe) 8-4, 6-2 B Brugssen (Sp) bt A Gastedmit (M) 6-2 7-6. J Senches (Sp) bt P Harrius (Neth) 6-2, 8-3: C Moya (Sp) bt O Camporase (N 2-6, 6-3, 6-2, A Agaste (US) bt J Stemerint (Neth) 6-2, A R Krafjook (Neth) bt M Rosset (Switz) 7-6, 6-2.

Book (Neth) or in Rossist (Switz) 7-6, 6-2. FEDERATION CSIP: Europe-Africa 2000s: Group Coner Pool & Rossis 3, 2000s: Group Coner Pool & Rossis 3, 2001 to Endergroup 5-1, 5-3, C Wood (Suspension) lost to E Likebevinsen 6-4, 5-4; Smith Wood 10st to Mattercount & Koursis Loven 7-6, 6-1; Slovenna 3, Selamus 0.

kowa 7-6. 6-1; Siovensa 3, Selarus 0.

LADIEZY SPRIMO SATELLITE (Edinburgh): First rosmel: E Beand (GS) bt R
Vicize (Pim) 5-2. 6-0: J Beveson (GS) bt A
Kurimay (Pim) 7-6. 4-6. 4-1, Woodworte
(GS) bt L Ahi (GS) 6-3. 7-5; C Kremer
(Ger) bt G Nisard (Ice) 4-6. 6-1, 6-2: S-A
Siddeal (GS) bt L Opan (GS) 6-1, 6-1: J
Stock (SA) bt A Bettina (Ant) 6-0, 6-1: J
Wood (GS) bt M Matthews (GS) 7-3, 6-0
K Karner (Ger) bt M Ball (Aus) 6-3, 6-4: B
Rawdeley (Aus) bt E Loboscond (Fr) 6-4.

R Kanster (Ser) or M 201 (Aus) 5-3, 5-4 Blandsley (Aus) to E. Lebescond (Fr) 6-4, 6-2, 18 Marrina (Pus) is M Vesseberg (Neb) 6-3, 6-0; K Balekova (C2) by T Pau-lov (Yug) 6-1, 6-1; J Pullin (GB) by T Ring (A2) 6-2, 6-2; J Ward (GB) by J Choudhury (GS) 6-3, 6-2; V Davids (GB) by J Choudhury (GS) 6-3, 6-2; V Davids (GB) by A Tricard (GB) 6-1; C-2; A Tordoft (GB) by A Tricard

Britain one step from drop

RITAIN were beaten for pool match today to stand any chance of avoiding relegation.

Sergi Bruguera confirmed

on Monday, Britain must now in 1991 and 1993. He now face beat Slovenia in their final a compatriot, Felix Mantilla.

Madrid have been trailing Lizarazu for many months. Manchester United and Blackburn Rovers covet Zidane, and Newcastle United have been monitoring the progress of

Sergi Bruguera confirmed that he is on the way to recovery after a foot opera-tion last year with an easy

straight-sets victory over the Italian Andrea Gaudenzi in

the first round of the Monte Carlo Open yesterday. The 26-

year-old Spaniard, plagued by a foot injury since his second French Open title in 1994, won 6-2, 7-6 in 83 minutes and said: "What I need now is

a couple more victories to bring back my confidence. I

still feel uneasy on court from

Bruguera was the top clay court player in both 1993 and

1994. He won at Monte Carlo

in 1991 and 1998. He now faces

AMERICAM LEAGUE: Cleveland 6, Baltimore 3, New York 6, Kansas City 2; Boston 4, Minnesota 1; Chicago 12, Texas 4; Calicrola 6, Detroit 5; Caktand 6, Milwautee 2; Toronto 16: Seattle 7. MATTOMAL LEAGUE: San Diego 5, Piorida 3; Montreal 8, St Louis 0; Pilisburgh 9, Philadelphia 3; Allanta 4, Los Ampeles 1; New York 5, Gencimal 1; Colorado 4, Chicago 2; Nouston 11, San Francisco 8.

AMBER TOURNAMENT (Monaco):
Bossed 18 standlings: V Kramnik (Fus)
132: V Ananad (Ind) 11; V Ivanctuk (Ukr)
102: J Polgar (Hun), A Shirov (Sp) 10: G
Kamsky (US). G Lautier (Fr) St: A Karpov
(Fus) S; P Rivolak (Bos), J Pited (Neth) S: L
Ljubojevic (Yog) 5: X Jun (China) 4.

PREST TEST (Bridgetown): New Zealand 195 and 305 (N Artie 12t: Blehop 4-67). West indies 472 (6 Campbell 20t 3 Chan-de-paul 82: Lursen 3-78) and 29-0. West Indies won by 10 weksts. 7/RESE-DAY RIATCHE The Parker Mid-

SECOND 30 CHAMPIONSHIP: Contes-burye Lancashire 431-6 dec (P C McKeown 175, N T Wood 140) and 48-0. Keni 325-6 dec (J H Beldock 80, S Willia-hamshare 230-6 tel Alzasi 59 v Somerasi. Match drawn, Kadwife end Dorrldger Derbyshire 300-3dec (T J G O'Gorman 115no, M R May 62) v Warwickshire.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Group A: United States 4 Germany 2. Group B: Italy

Cricket

University Metch day SECOND XI CHAM

Hockey

ice Hockey

time to time."

of 10 clubs who have offi- like to speak to him and we cially expressed an interest in the 34-year-old Welsh-man, who is to leave Anfield after next month's FA Cup final against Manches-

ter United. "Obviously I would be in-

are now in the process of direction. "As far as we are aware to suspend all talks until Scarborough.

more — of the French club's most influential players will depart to pastures new before the start of next season.

On Saturday Evans at this summer's European Championship.

On Saturday Evans at this summer's European Championship.

Evans is not alone in his admiration of Bordeaux's finest. Arsenal and Real Chark property is a finest. Arsenal and Real Chark property is a finest. Arsenal and Real Chark property is a finest of the finest are one first season.

Nottingham Forest's terested when a player of manager Frank Clark yes lan Rush's calibre becomes available on the transfer market, especially when he is available on a fire transfer to get him around the table once he is clear to speak with us."

The former England in-

ternational midfielder Gordon Cowans, who is to leave moving things in that the First Division's Sheffield United at the end of the season, is considering at the moment he has an joining the struggling agreement with Liverpool Third Division club

Gallacher's golden chance to solve attacking problem

Scotland's striking choice for tonight

ken Stadium tonight, when Scotland play their last match before Craig Brown announces his Euro '96 squad on May 2. The 29-year-old Blackburn forward, who lost two years of his career after breaking the

ished by his injuries.
"But he has had such good

things instinctively.

Rugby Union

Rugby League

(Washington lead series 2-1): Florida Boston 2 (Florida lead 2-0). Weets Conference Florida institution Vancouver Colorado 3 (series tiad 2-2).

RMBASSY WORLD CHAMPIONSMIP (Sheffield): First round: S Davis (Eng) bi W Thome (Eng) 10-8: A McMassas (Scot) M M Price (Eng) 10-8: Bosed (Mag) bt A Hamilton (Eng) 10-8. **Fixtures**

Soccer

Snooker

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Gzech
Republe v Rep of Iretand (4.0); Dermark v
Sontlend (7.15): England v Croatia (8.0);
Northern Iretand v Sweden; Switzerland v
Wales (7.15).
GM VALTICALL CONFERENCE: Gateshead v Southport (7.45).
UMSDOND LEAGUED Freember Divisions
heate (18) v Guission; Erest Divisions Ferni-

ton Utd. ICIS LEAGUR: First Division: Billerica To y Barton Rws. Second Division Col lier Row y Bracknell Tn. Third Division Harlow Tn y Herpland Tn. Lawre y Windson

& Edn.

BEAZER HORSES LEAGUER Promier
Divisione Newport AFC v Merthyr (? 45):
Salisbury v Residen & D'ronde; VS
Rugby v Crawley Tn. Efficient Divisions
Pager Rings v Bistion Tn. Sociations
Pager Rings v Bistion Tn. Sociations
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Plest Division Grystal Palace v Wimbledon (7.0); Milhwall v Charlion (7.0); CPR v
Firstol C 2.0); Swindon v Norwich (2.0);
Second Divisions Citetionham v Cardin.
Second Divisions Citetionham v Cardin.
Southand Uti v Wattord (11.0).
SPALDMIC CUPP Flest, Srat-legs Maccledfield v Bromsgrove (7.45).

COURAGE CLUES CHAMPIONSHIP: Hatlocal Lasgue One: Lelcester v Gloscoster (7.45). HEMBERIEN HATIONAL LEAGUES First Division Bridgest v Newport (7.0). CLUE MATCHES: Cardit v Pontypool (7.15); Cardit Inst v Newport (7.0).

Cricket OTHER MATCH IONE day

serviceable return from the Patrick Glenn on

KEVIN GALLACHER will be the most monitored trialist at Copenhagen's Par-

same leg twice, is seen by Brown as a possible solution to his team's most troublesome department, the attack. Gallacher will partner Chelsea's John Spencer against Denmark, the European champions, in a match likely to be a rigorous examination for aspirants to the Scots final 22 for England in June. "We have big hopes for Gal-lacher," said Brown. "The international game is so much harder than club football that pace is almost a prerequisite. Gallacher has always had that and it hasn't been dimin-

guidance through his career, from Jim McLean at Dundee United to Kenny Dalglish and Ray Harford at Blackburn, that he's now doing the right Through the European

qualifying we've had a very good return from the back to middle areas of the team and

front. Despite our problems there we've always managed "So I can't knock the contribution from the eight or nine different guys we've had in that department. But it would be ideal to find an automatic

pairing like McCoist and Johnston, which we had around the 1990 World Cup." The team starting tonight will be virtually dismantied at half-time, as Brown intends to play all his substitutes, ex-cept Norwich's goalkeeper Bryan Gunn, at some stage. Jim Leighton will be in goal and give way to Andy Goram at the interval, with Craig Burley likely to be replaced by Scot Gernmill at the same time.

The Scots will probably depart from the three-man central defence which served them well in the qualifiers, with an eye already on the opening match in the finals, against Holland at Villa Park.
"We have to be adaptable
there." said Brown. "We fin-

ished with a four against Australia last month and we may need that formation against the Dutch, who play three forwards. You need cover against that, which the threeman defence doesn't give

SCOTLAND: Leighton (Hibs), NorKhannie (Aberdeen), Hendry Blackburn), Boyd (Cettic), T Molichaty (Cettic), Burrey (Choises), NoCall (Rangers), Makistan (Leads), Collins (Gellic), Spencer (Choises), Collins (Cellic), Spencer

Bruce sets Boro target

on the Double.

United's captain, who misses Sunday's game against Nottingham Forest with hamabout making the last Premiership game at Middles-

rejoining Newcastle's title challenge at Leeds on Monday have suffered another setyesterday after an ankle injury, now has tonsillitis.

STEVE BRUCE hopes to be brough on May 5 and the FA Cup final.

Manchester United's assault Keith Gillespie's hopes of

Notingham Forest with ham-string trouble, is optimistic due to resume full training

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The Bridge

The second of the

Sleaze ban on Tyson

IKE a merciful referee, a United States court yes-terday stepped in to rescue Mike Tyson from him-self. Two weeks ago Tyson, who has a costly history of molestation and rape, was accused of interfering with a woman in a Chicago nightclub. The Clique. Yesterday he was ordered to stay out of sleazy bars and strip clubs, establishments that serve alcobol or feature erotic enter tainment. He agreed to com-

ply with the order.
Last month Tyson, 29,
smashed Frank Bruno to defeat to regain the WBC heavy-weight title. At one time he held all the heavyweight belts. Indeed, he seems to fare far worse against pretty women than against all the giants be faces inside the

ropes.
The latest allegation is that
Tyson "touched and fondled"
a 25-year-old beauty consultant and "suckled her cheek" when she was lured to a private room at the club. Police were not sufficiently im pressed with her story to arrest him, but it is nevertheless a serious less a serious matter for someone still on probation after being paroled out of prison halfway through a six-

year sentence for rape.

Tyson has always denied raping a 19-year-old beauty queen contestant but still faces her multi-million-dollar civil suit for damages. Com-plaints have been lodged against him by several other women, including a car-park attendant and a salesgiri in a shopping mall. His defenders suggest that

as a millionaire sports star he is an automatic target for un-scrupulous female opportun-ists. His marriage ended in a huge financial settlement to his wife, the actress Robin Givens, whom Tyson would later describe as "the slime of

"The purpose of the new restrictions is to keep Tyson out of potential trouble situa-tions," said George Walker, out de potential troute situa-tions," said George Walker, chief probation officer for Marion County, Ohio, where Tyson makes his principal home. "[In case] he couldn't figure it out before, it not only staff and friends on potice."

While in prison Tyson cohol and generally imposes a strict moral code. This does not explain what he was doing in Chicago's South Side on that fateful night two weeks ago — and in the fast weeks ago — and in the fast company of Oliver McCall, the hard-living former cham-pion who only hours after that incident was arrested in possession of marijuans.

to Anfield

's golden chance

Hacking problem

#1% Boro largel

British team

The curious reason is that

further increased by wild-card entries allowed if the

lightweight champion from Tooting, has withdrawn from his European title challenge to Angel Mona of France in

fence against Daniel Alicea of Puerto Rico at Newcastle Arena on June 8 will have another world title fight on the card, an all-American affair son's Second Division, have for the WBA super-middle weight title between Frankie Liles and Tim Littles.

Leigh's coach yesterday after are, is favourite to take over. Bernard Dwyer, who insured an elbow in last Friday's game at Wigan, will be at hooker in the Bradford Bulls side to play St Helens in Saturday's Silk Cut Challenge



In the lime-light . . . Dean Headley, taking a break by Canterbury's famous landmark, has an impressive family tree

Headley continues family business

Paul Weaver on the Kent seamer with England ambitions but whose father and grandfather both batted for West Indies

N RECENT years a tour of Pakistan has been the Rngland cricketers Gu-lag Archipelage; bowlers have discovered that the wickets have low bounce. and the batsmen have found that the umpires can

be even lower. Those betsmen with sensitive stomachs, moreover, will tell you with a grim smile that the only way you can improve your average on the subcontinent is to buy shares in tollet rolls.

Dean Headley has rather better memories of Pakilast winter under the cap-taincy of Nasser Russain and the avuncular guid-ance of John Emburey has propelled the Kent seamer to the threshold of the full

England side.
"He is ready to play Test

sex. Hussain was equally impressed with the consistency shown by the fast bowler who with skiddy pace took 25 first-class wickets at 15 each. His gleaming new sponsored Pengeot 406 (replacing last season's 306) confirms his

Headley's withdrawal from Monday's match be-tween England A and The Rest probably brought claimed to have embraced the better memories of Paki-McCague and Alan Iggles-Islam faith, which forbids alstan. His England A tour den have appeared together so rarely that at one stage it was rumoured they were really one man cleverly drawing two salaries.

Headley, 26, had a slight left hip problem with soft tissue and was advised not "He is ready to play Test to play. "If was a big disap cricket now," said Empointment because I've of Imran Khan, who at alongside him for Middle-season training. But I was a fine batsman but

three weeks if I played at Chelmsford. Now I hope to be back inside a week.

"I was delighted with what Embers said because we played together at Lord's a few years ago and I was worried he might judge Mike Gatting still calls me 'Aerosol' because I sprayed it a bit in those days. But I've improved in the past couple of years. There is cruel sniggers from some couple of years. There is quarters; Kent's injury-prone fast bowlers Martin though I might not be quick McCague and Alan Iggles quick I'm not the sort you an take for granted."

> ment, including a nasty nip-backer, and some swing when he pitches it up. The former Kent captain Alan Balham, Kent's Director of Youth Coaching,

There is also seam move

in terms of sheer pace I think Deano has the same potential. He could certainly be the new Devon Malcoin." Ray Illingworth,

perhaps, hopes not.
With Igglesden injured,
Headley is likely to share
the new ball with McCague.
"To be fair, after last
season I would have hoped to get the new ball anyway. I also hope to improve with the bat, although I am a bowler who can hold a bat rather than an all-

Headley, as he may be tired of being reminded, is the son of Ron. George Headley was one of the greatest of batsmen; dis-counting the brief and cur-rent careers of Brian Lara and Jimmy Adams of West Indies, only Don Bradman (99.94) and Graeme Pollock (60.97) have better Test averages than his 60.83. And Ron Headley was an ele-

only a medium-pace swing batamen for Worcester-bowler. He became one of the great fast bowlers, and Seventies and was perhaps unlucky to play only two

Tests in 1973.

"When I was 11 or so I thought of playing for West Indies like them. But I was born in Stourbridge, near worcester, and brought up in this country. I'm English, and there was really only one choice to be made. I love Jamaica but

Two only been to the place a couple of times.
"I met my grandfather when I was 11, shortly before he died. He was given an Air Jamaica ticket and visited us in Stourbridge. I remember him taking the grandson of George and me in the back garden and throwing the at me."

If Dean Headley does not play Test cricket too, there could be a future in modelling; he has recently done a shoot with the Manchesterhased agency Respect. Per-haps someone should tell him that male modelling did little for Chris Lewis's gant left-handed opening career.

Kambli axed by India's selectors

Neil Robinson

NDIA yesterday became em-broiled in a selection controversy after excluding Vinod Kambli from the tour to England this summer. The 24-year-old, who has scored 1,084 runs in 17 Tests at an average of 54.20, is replaced by the 23-year-old Saurav Ganguly, who has not

played Test cricket. India's chief selector Gun dappa Viswanath said that the Bombay left-hander was not even considered in the two-hour selection meeting but he would not say why.

However, India's former
captain Dilip Vengsarkar wrote in yesterday's Asian Age newspaper that he be-lieved Kambli, left out for two

one-day tournaments after the World Cup, "was dropped for reasons other than cricket". He suggested the problem was disciplinary. "Kambli ... will have to mend his ways and show game," he wrote. "He is too talented to miss out on opportunities such as these

then I guess he has only him self to blame for that." The uncapped medium-fast bowler Paras Mhambrey and left-arm spinner Sunil Joshi are the other new names in the 16-man squad, which is captained by Mohammad Achenddin Azharuddin.

The squad, which arrives in London next Tuesday, includes two left-arm spinners Anil Kumble - and five medium-fast bowlers. There is no off-spinner. "None of the off-spinners came up to the mark," said Viswanath.

● A dashing 125 by New Zealand's Nathan Astle failed to halt West Indies in the first Test in Bridgetown. The tourists were all out for 305 and West Indies scored the 29 they required without loss for a 10-wicket victory. Rugby Union

England TV pledge on home games

ised not to give BSkyB exclusive tele-vision rights to their Five Nations Championship bome games. But the Rugby Foot-ball Union will stick to its despite a thirdy veiled threat by the other home unions to throw England out of the championship if Twickenham

goes it alone.

Tony Hallett, the RFU secretary, insisted; "Our honest target is to mix and match be ween satellite and terrestrial channels and not do an excluchanness and not to an extra-sive deal with one company." England, seeking a five-year agreement running from 1997 to 2022, declined to put a

figure on its overall value, but insiders believe the contract should be worth at least Hallett remained unrepen-

tant about England's new hardnosed negotiating strat-egy, which he hinted had deeloped out of "frustration" in previous rounds of talks. "I don't think we should leave it all to the Five Nations com-mittee, which seems unable to invite tenders or even ap-point consultants for a new contract," he said.

"We would want to negoti-ate within the Five Nations if the proportion of monies we need were recognised by the other unions, but we have mittee we got tired of being

John Jeavons-Fellows, a key member of the RFU's tele-vision committee, pointed out that in the 1999-2003 period England would have to repay a £34 million bank loan which the new TV contract would largely cover. He declared: "Putting hums on seats can-not finance the game. Televi-sion turns international sports into global sports and without it those sports cannot survive. Television has to be used for the benefit of the English game."

Jeavons-Fellows, who is

also a respected International Board member, was derided at the weekend by an Irish RFU official as "blimpish, ar-rogant and idiotic" after he argued that it cost far more to run the game in England than in the other home unions. resterday he pointed out that the RFU was servicing 2,045 clubs compared with Wales's 419, Scotland's 212 and Ire-

England, who command 77.7 per cent of the British TV audience for Five Nations matches, and 82 per cent of the target advertising market, also spend more on youth rugby (£1.7 million) and coaching (£1 million) than any of the other unions.

Jeavons-Fellows did hint that a rapprochement might eventually be negotiated. "We have set out our position as we see it," he said. "A lot of input from the broadcasting companies is needed before

been told it has to be a four- outvoted four to one on every

Swansea lure Thomas home

RWEL THOMAS, the Wales fly-half, is set to join Swansea after only ason at Bristol, revers ing the recent trend of players crossing the Severn Bridge for careers in England.

The 21-year-old Thomas was left out of the Bristol side last Saturday and has dropped out of the college course the club had lined up for him. Anticipating his return to Wales, Bristol were yesterday having talks with Cork Constitution's former Ireland stand-off Paul Burke. Last weekend Thomas

chose to watch not Bristol's League One game against Saracens but Swansea's encoun-ter with his former club Neath at St Helen's, and he spoke to Swansea officials after the match. A financial package is

being worked out with the help of the Weish Rugby Union in order to tempt Thomas, who lost his place in the Wales team for the final Five Nations match against France last month, back to the principality.

proach to him a few months ago but he said then that he wished to stay with Bristol and play in the Courage league. If that position has be in the frame to sign him."

The WRU is hoping to offer its leading 25 players contracts worth about £40,000 a year, but Thomas is not even certain of his place on Wales's tour of Australia which starts next month, given a loss of form which has allowed Pon-typridd's Neil Jenkins to and Mark Tainton to take Thomas's place at the Memo-

The WRU hopes the contract will keep players in Wales. There will be nine Welsh internationals playing in England next season, with several more considering offers

"We cannot make firm plans until we know what the financial position will be next

season," said Ruddock.
"There is no point in recruiting players on the strength of projected income. You have to know where you stand, and the current difference between the major clubs Swansea's coaching director Mike Ruddock last night on the result of the

Richmond in the hunt for Catt

MIKE CATT, the Engsparkling form at fly-half for Bath, is the new target of Richmond. And the London club, who have clinched promotion to League Two, are still chasing Catt's Bath and England colleague Ben Clarke. Richmond's rugby direc-tor Vinny Codrington said: "We have been speaking to Mike and Ben. The discus-

sions are not concluded but we intend making a big hit presentation on May 7."

players' contracts will be officially activated the day before, after the ending of the Rugby Football Union's payments.

two key players for tonight's crucial Courage league match with Glouces-ter at Welford Road. The flanker Neil Back and the injured scrum-half Aadel Kardooni are replaced by Bill Drake-Lee and Jamie

Teamtalk

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23 West Ham 29 Wimbledon 16 Wolves 18 Celtic

01 Tottenham Hot.

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19 Shaffield United 15

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35 Southhampton

04 Stoke City

02 Sunderland

is doubled

BRITAIN has avoided the ignominy of having only one Olympic representative in the Atlanta ring this summer, urites Jack Mossorik. Until yesterday the sole flag-bearer was the Liverpool featherweight David Burke. He will now be joined by Fola Okesola, a heavyweight from south London's Lynn Club.

Michael Ibsen of Denmark, who outpointed Okesola at the recent European championships, has been withdrawn.
Danish officials reportedly gave Ibsen little chance of winning a medal. The British team may be

American countries do not send a full complement of competitors.
Michael Ayers, the British

Antibes this Saturday.

Ayers, who last May w an outright Lonsdale Belt in the record span of 95 days, is not happy with his purse of £19,000. The original offer of £47,000 was more than halved when two dates of February 3 and March 29 fell through.

Prince Naseem Hamed's WBO featherweight title defence against Daniel Alicea of

Snooker

might join John Parrott, away to a comfortable win beaten 10-8 by Rod Lawler on with breaks of 48, 55, 47, 125, Cijve Everton in Sheffield

LAN McMANUS, often

Monday, as an unexpected early casualty. But an un-forced error from Price the forgotten member of forced error from Price Scotland's snooker trip proved crucial and cost him unvirate after Stephen much more than the ninth Hendry and John Higgins, underlined his credentials as The world No. 21 appeared

a potential winner of the to be heading for a 5-3 advan-£1.2 million Embassy World tage until he jawed an ele-£12 million Embassy World tage until he lawed an ele-Championship at the Crucible mentary pink. A couple of vis-tis later McManus fashioned McManus, 5-3 down over | a 36 clearance to trail only 5-4 night having engaged nothing and Price, unsuccessful in higher than second gear in the first session on Monday, was visibly shaken. The exhigher than second gear in the first session on Monday, powered to a 10-5 victory over Mick Price, a tough if little known professional from Numeaton.

The Glaswegian was well aware of the danger that he

43 and 64. McManus will now play Higgins, assuming the provisional world No. 2 beats Mar-tin Clark.

McManus's performance had many similarities to the rearguard action produced by Steve Davis to reach the last 16 and record his 51st match Davis, winner of the cham-pionship six times between 1981 and 1989, burned the mid-

teach Greg Norman a thing or two about surrendering seem-ingly unassailable advan-deficit to win.

Davis turned the tide with a 38 clearance to black in the 15th frame, after Thorne had missed a pink. In the 17th Davis cleared with 64 despite the balls being awkwardly

Rugby League

Hughes is favourite to replace sacked Lucas at Leigh

AN LUCAS, the former Wigan and Great Britain

prop. was dismissed as Leigh's coach yesterday after

replacement soon. "We are talking to two or three people," he said Eric Hughes, sacked by St Helens in January, is favourite to take over.

Bernard Dwyer, who injured an elbow in last Friday's game at Wigan, will be at heaters in the Profession.

in their five league games. Cup final at Wembley. There Mick Higgins, the club's will be a £10,000 prize from the sponsor for the first man replacement soon. "We are final; no one has since the final moved to Wembley in Leeds have signed the goal-

kicking back Setaki Tuipu-lotu, who played for Tongs in last year's rugby union World Cup. Sheffield Eagles have se-cured a II-year-old Austra-

Jason Temu have been or-dered to appear before tomorafter incidents last Saturday at Castleford. Temu was placed on report for a high tackle, and Ranson was involved in a tackle which saw Nathan Sykes leave the field

tages, but his latest disappointment was more down to Davis's steely determination

than his own failings.

Bradford Bolle (for Challange Cup final): Graham; Cook, Calland, Loughlin, Scales; Bradley; Paul; McDermon, Dwyer, Harner, Nickle, Danoughar, Knox.

Unlikely victory against elements and odds for Merricks and Walker

Classes to sail in this Semaine

Olympique regarta; the Finus,
Buropes and Tornadoss
beat sickness, a broken rudder and "massive seas" to
pull off a dramatic victory large and sailboards
here on the coast of the south
of France yesterday.

Classes to sail in this Semaine
Olympique regarta; the Finus,
Europes and Tornadoss
remained ashore while the
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row, the second race, with the
rudder repaired, they came
back as dramatically as Lazarus. More determined than
been strongly denied by
Pierre Fehlmann, the race
of France yesterday.

A bull in the strong winds allowed only some of the Britons when Merrick, the repair they resumed in the massive seas", for a formida-classes to sail in this Semaine helmsman, went affoat suffer mid-teens and finished only ble victory.

Cruyff Mk II takes centre stage, page 14

Rugby brings Murdoch down to earth, page 15

borts Guardian

Platt back as **England** put on their thinking caps



FIVE TO FEAR

ONIGHT England will get a better idea of how realistic their hopes of winning the European Championship are. Croatia were the most impressive qualifiers for the tournament and are the strongest opponents Terry Venables's team will encounter during the run-in

Report by **David Lacey**

to Euro '96.

Venables, therefore, cannot be faulted for lack of imagination in deciding, at this late stage, that it is about time England joined the main-stream of European football by playing three at the back with five in midfield. The intelligence was not wrong except that Wright will be flanked by two full-backs. Gary Neville and Pearce, rather than having another

played for England since last summer, eets an opportunits to show that, despite his indifferent form since a series of knee operations, he can still turn in a satisfactory international performance.

Platt will wear the captain's armband but is still in the wavy navy so far as the European Championship is vincing game tonight to prove to Venables that, come June,

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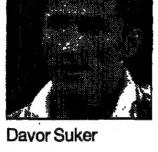
Zvonimir Boban

Captain, wonderful striker of the ball in midfield. Milan discouraged Manchester United's Interest in him this season, though they have yet to make him an automatic choice. Croatian nationalist hero since he kicked a Serb policeman during a 1990 match that degenerated into an ethnic

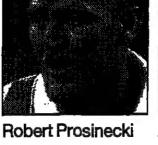


Igor Stimac

Derby County Strong tackler and header of the ball signed by Derby from Hajduk Split for £1.5 as sweeper for Derby but as a marking central defender for Creatia former Miss Yugoslavia.



Sevilla Quick, clever, killer finisher with blazing left foot. Has scored at better than a million in November. Plays goal a game for Croatia, as sweeper for Derby but as including two in the 2-1 over Italy in Palermo Will join Real Madrid next season. Has been learning English in preparation for



Barcelona
Elegant midfielder who
won a European Cup winwors' medal with Red Star Belgrade in 1992. Was including two in the 2-1 meant to be a superstar in European Championship the making when he joined Real Madrid that year but his two seasons there were blighted by a series of inju-ries. Barcelona signed him last summer. Heavy



Hard work compensates in goal drought. Won Euro-1993, then was sold for £8 million to Lazio. where he has suffered a frustrating season.

Robert Pryce

supporters will be gung hoing their way home all the same.

Set by Chifonie

Indeed it is not. England patient and not give the ball teams habitually played with a centre-half flanked by two damage if we go at it a bit damage if we go at it a hit gung-ho." But if the night belongs to Fowler, England's

Snail in ginger beer at root of rugby ruckus



Vincent Hanna

HE first thing we tell trainees," says Steve Griffiths, "if it looks dangerous: stop it." Steve is referees' development officer for the Rugby Football Union and a careful man. His aim is to ensure that,

within five years, every rugby game, at whatever level, is controlled by a trained referee. To that end he supplies manuals, videos, information packs, training courses, appraisals, and assessments. In-surance is also available.

These things should reas sure you that your son (or daughter) is as safe as possible when playing junior rugby. Ironically they may also make it easier to sue the referee.

This is all about the Ben Smoldon case last week. He was paralysed in 1991 after a scrum collapsed, when he was 17, and won a case in neglience against the referee. It throws a hand-grenade into the administration of team sports, and will cost clubs learly in extra insurance

This leaves thousands of iedicated, unpaid men and women, who give up their time to coach and referee junior rugby, at some per-sonal risk. As Roger Uttley aid on Saturday, they have

reason to look worried. But not surprised. The Tort of Negligence has been open for business in sport for about 25 years, and it's a wonder to me why it has taken this long to get serious with the

amateurs. The Smoldon case puts me on the spot. Not the decision. which was legally impeccable This was a colts game where understood, laws existed for their protection.

I have a conflict of loyalties. I must confess. I was once a practising lawyer, specialis-ing in personal-injury cases. I

But to move downwards, I hear you cry, from a profession held in such low esteem . to journalism? I am clearly a dangerous recidivist and you understand why I keep quiet about it.

There's more. I have on a few occasions refereed rugby matches, always because the proper ref hadn't turned up for the fourth-XV game. I was in-

Guardian Crossword No 20,635

competent. No. I was a men-ace, usually because I got com-pletely carried away and beame partisan.

"Cheering on the home side I can live with." one gental captain explained to me. "but tackling our out-half is a bit

So the referee manque says: what a shame and a pity for the sport. The lawyer rubs his hands and thinks: that's good for business. The modern Tort of Negli-

gence began with a snail in a bottle of ginger beer in 1932, the sight of which allegedly caused a lady to feel ill. Donoghue-v-Stevenson became one of the pillars of our

Lord Atkin said, you must take reasonable care to avoid acis or omissions which you can reasonably foresec would be likely to injure your neigh-bour, whom he defined as someone you ought reason-ably to have in mind at the

It opened a flood of cases based on the principle. Once you owe a duty of care, you must not directly or indirectly cause damage that could reasonably be foreseen. So: wet hospital floors, unguarded manholes, missing light-bulbs have given damages to the injured and second

homes to lawyers.
Sports cases used to be rare. They mostly concerned the liability of the occupiers of premises to the public. Apart from great public tragedies. such as the Bradford fire and Hillsborough, they used to get short shrift.

A child got an ice-hockey puck in the face at Haringey in 1951; serve the father right for taking him there. A Mr Bolton was hit on the head outside a cricket ground; next time take

UT that has changed — as we have changed. It is the special virtue of the Common Law to embody the development of our nation. So as sport is reorganised and developed, so inevitably change the duties placed upon its

We have seen the courts regularly intervene in professional sport. I can't remember many cries of outrage about that. And we should not be shocked now.

If organising bodies respon sibly impose duties upon ref-erees and coaches for the proection of the vulnerable then, just as it has since the reign of Henry II, the Common Law will

find new ways to enforce them. To say "If it looks danger-ous, stop it," is merely to invite one of Her Majesty's Justices — sooner or later — to say: "Well, it looked dangerous to me, and you didn't."

na "OLD SPECKLED A finely balanced. deliciously smooth ale. with a subtle blend of

Hunting for Perfection~

proper chance to show he can than a volunteer reserve. For Robbie Fowler, starting score goals against internaan England match for the first defences. If he suctime, the evening will be no reeds. Shearer and Ferdinand will be nursing anxieties as less crucial. The 21-year-old well as injuries.

Above all else this will be

an intelligence test for England. The system will only work if the players under-stand their roles, and it may not be entirely coincidental that three of the midfield positions are filled by footballer with Italian league experi-ence — Platt, Ince and Yesterday Venables in-

sisted that the formation was not revolutionary, just a logi-cal progression. "I've been cal progression. "I've been looking to change things over a period of time," he said.
"This is a natural way of playing." Of course England will not defend with only three play-

ers. Ince will be on hand to step back and help out, so will Stone and Platt, and Gas-coigne, as he showed against Bulgaria, can fill a more disciplined role.

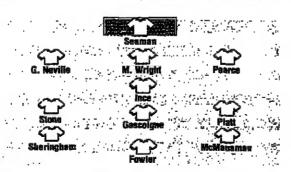
The essence of playing this way is that if players have both ability and adaptability a team is better able to switch

been progressing steadily towards this. Against Bul-garia, Southgate stepped up into midfield, this time Ince will be stepping back into defence. What we'll be doing against Croatia is not that

tion counter-thrusts. As Platt explained yesterday: "The format will change as the game changes. We'll be starting with three defenders, but if the opposition start throwing men forward the back three will become a back four.
"At this level the tactical sub-battle is of greater importance. There has to be flexibil-ity in the team and we've four years is even worse than

out exposing itself to opposifull-backs from the mid-Twenties to the early Sixties. What goes on in front of them, however, has altered beyond Croatia might beat England tonight if Boban, Boksic, Suker and Prosinecki bypas Ince and leave Wright feeling that his first international for

> his last, against Spain in San-tander under Graham Taylor. But this will not be another "Croatia are a good counter-attacking side," said Venables, "so we'll have to be



Saddam fails to invade the world of chess

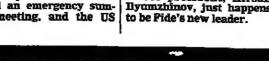
Leonard Barden

Worldwide protests have forced the International Chess Federation (Fide) to cancel plans for Anatoly Karpov to play Gata Kamsky in Bagindad in June with £1.3 million at stake. Several countries threat-

ened to walk out of the 150nation world body. Leaders of European federations CADDAM HUSSEIN will of European federations whose president, Kirston the world championship after all. mit meeting, and the US to be Fide's new leader.

Kamsky to play. The former Soviet prodigy, now applying for American citirrize-money now comes down to £550,000 and the match goes to Elista, capital of the small Russian

republic of Kalmykia, whose president, Kirsan Hyumzhinov, just happens



Last Tuesday the Times praised Goldsmith for "the purity of his message" — though the paper neglected to add that its owner. Rupert Murdoch, is an old pal who has enjoyed Goldsmith's hospitality at his Xanadu-style estate in Mexico.

Across

- 1 is the ghost of the theatre purged by this? (8,6) 9 See man about to ban red
- roses, for instance (4.5) 10 Either way it's direct (5) 11 College said to be eroded
- 12 Time-waster makes sweet item with hesitation (9) 13 Stands at the game to see the Queen in shadows (8) 14 Study the odds before
- 17 Cause a sensation with old quote (6)
- 19 Censure salesman taking 22 Cry of pain by leader of Diss
- 24 Love to get footballer

move (9)

- 25 Return an impulse and
- create endless confusion (5) 26 Confuse man and lie to obtain a gem (9)
- 27 This is the way to a Tory stronghold (4,2,3,5)

the water (7)

- Down
- 1 Sat right in spotlight to show 2 Shipbuilder drops alien in
- 3 Mean social worker is a manager (9)
- 4 Enquire about the condition of cooked RAF steak (3,5)
- 5 Small group surrounds pupil enlightened by star (6)
- 6 The opening of a chain letter
- 7 Transposed a popular passage from the bible (7) 8 King glared at the ref. for bungling (6,3,5)

CROSSWORD SOLUTION 20,634

15 Thief cast cut of meet into

18 Shut up about our gallentry 20 Steadfast sailor gets one to

16 Siren comes from Kent at

ring (7) 21 A firm supporting my French principality (6) 23 Angry for the other fellow got the ram (3,2)

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